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Latin America Report



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24 September 1984

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ARGENTINA

ALFONSIN UNDERSCORES TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT, RESEARCH

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 14 Jul 84 p 10

/Text/ The need for a technological "development" that will support the growth requirements of national industry and responses to the isolation the country may suffer as the result of the "growing rigidity of international trade" was stressed by the president of the nation, Raul Alfonsin, during his visit yesterday to the National Industrial Technology Institute /INTI/.

In a lengthy analysis that included a summary of what has been accomplished in the recent past, the chief executive stressed that the developed countries are seeking to maintain their "economic privilege" not only "in the area of economic agreements" but also in the area of the use of technological development.

He maintained that the country possesses the basic conditions to become a creator and exporter of technologies, particularly those he described as "adapted to the characteristics of the developing countries, which have an imperative need to improve their wages through industrialization but whose markets do not reach the size of large-scale economies required to absorb factories or investments from the developed countries," he explained.

In this context, President Alfonsin stressed, the INTO becomes a "basic objective" of technological policy and at the same time emerges as one of the pillars of "support for small and medium business."

He then pointed out that the state is the largest "accumulator" of financial and scientific resources devoted to research "which in many cases businesses cannot be a party to, individually." In this connection, although it must be "an associated part in all technology that may be conducted in the country on the basis of the private effort of businesses with the greatest capability, it must concentrate its contribution "on small and medium business, which is one of the basic foundations of the reconstruction of our economy."

Alfonsin believed that the "good distribution" of the universities in all parts of the country makes it possible today to support a "new stage of development based on technological research."

He emphasized that in that stage "our technology and our science must be shared to expand the possibilities of development of our continent."

Reflecting on the recent past, Alfonsín pointed out that "coincidental with the most backward period of economic thinking" there was an absence of an industrial development policy and consequently of technological progress and fostering of local creative capacity.

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CSO: 3348/533

MILITARY AIRCRAFT FACTORY PRESENTS I.A.-63 JET AIRCRAFT

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 1 Aug 84 p 5

/Text/ The recovery of the role of the aviation industry has been and continues to be a constant concern of the air force high commands, which see in this activity the appropriate means to insure, in close collaboration with private industry, the supply of the material necessary for the fulfillment of their mission.

As a demonstration of the progress achieved in the country's aviation industry, with the introduction of advanced technologies of its own in that sector, the prototype of the I.A.-63 advanced training plane will be presented in a few more days.

It is a subsonic monoreactor jet the design and performance characteristics of which are expected to surpass the majority of the planes of that type existing in other countries.

Its incorporation in the production line of the Military Aircraft Factory arose from the need to modernize the training system of the military pilots, replacing the old French-built Morane Saulnier 760's which make up the equipment of the Military Aviation School.

Thus it was that at the end of 1970 its design was begun based on the knowledge acquired in the development of European aviation and our own experiences.

A Valuable Antecedent

Among the latter undoubtedly was its predecessor on the assembly line of our major aircraft factory, the I.A.-58 Pucara, with a prominent operational role in the Malvinas War, despite the fact that it is a turboprop plane with a speed of only 550 km per hour and thus limited in its flight range.

The I.A.-63 prototype is a high-wing monoplane designed structurally in corrugated metal with a two-seat cockpit in tandem for the pilot and his trainer, with excellent visibility from both cabins, and expected to provide maximum training versatility.

Like the Pucara plane, the I.A.-63 will be versatile in terms of weaponry, which will enable the student-pilots to use bombs of different sizes, rockets and rapid-fire cannons according to the different operations they must carry out.

The training courses with the I.A.-63 plane are also planned for the use of complementary operations such as ground simulators, training system units, functional and demonstration models.

'Total System'

These programs for ground and flight personnel are necessary to carry out operations that are not only effective but also safe.

The aeronautical engineers who designed the I.A.-63 chose it among many other possibilities because they considered it appropriate for the "total system" concept, on which the principles of training are based, both for flight personnel and instructors and ground technical personnel, as well as logistic aspects.

It is expected that the I.A.-63, the recent prototype of which is entering the flight testing stage, may enter the assembly line of the Military Aircraft Factory toward the end of next year.

If this ambitious objective is achieved, a long-held aspiration by the directors, engineers, technicians and more than 500 workers, who for more than 50 years have constituted a highly-specialized staff, will have been fulfilled; together with the reactivation of the facilities which include wind tunnels, material fatigue test laboratories, chemical and mechanical processing and advanced production techniques.

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CSO: 3348/533

MICROELECTRONIC FIRM TO PRODUCE INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Jun 84 p 4

/Text/ Engineers of the National Technological University, Cordoba Regional School announced at a press conference that "within 3 years, Argentina will be in a position to enter the privileged group of advanced countries that master and apply the high technology production of industrial robots and flexible automated systems of manufacture." The announcement pertained to a computerized digital control completely designed and built in their laboratories. Its capabilities "place it among the best of its type in the world. Once again, this represents a demonstration of the capability of our engineering "know-how" in an area of frontier high-technology, in which complicated activities such as electronics, informatics and industrial cybernetics come together."

He explained that the digital control group called NUMERI-TEC-CNC-02, aroused the interest of an Argentine microelectronic company in Cordoba in producing it industrially. The project includes a high aggregate degree of local engineering, with their own ideas, designs and solutions, which gives it a high degree of independence and technological continuity. Since the system has been designed in the country, the control can be updated and adapted to the requirements of the user and world trends unusually quickly and at minimum cost.

Other Observations

It was then explained that the manufacture of an Argentine digital control system "will induce local manufacturers to adopt that high technology, incorporating it in their machine tools. This generates a multiplying process since the aforementioned system will make it necessary to redesign their models, again incorporating excellent Argentine and foreign engineering. The industrial model will be constantly compared with the latest imports of the same type, thus tending toward manufacturing production competitive in quality and price."

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CSO: 3348/533

NEVES OUTLINES PROGRAM PRIORITIES IF ELECTED

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] Recife--Yesterday, at the headquarters of the PSD [Social Democratic Party] in Pernambuco, Governor Tancredo Neves outlined his government program if he should be elected president of the republic. The [Minas Gerais] governor said it was important that the future congress have constituent powers, "as if it were a fully convoked National Constituent Assembly."

Regarding the foreign debt, he said the objective is not to break off with the IMF, in which Brazil has massive participation, but to act with absolute independence, accepting only what seems just to us. At the moment, even the cost of BNH [National Housing Bank] loans is affected by commitments to the fund.

Tancredo Neves gave the following exposition of his program.

Constituent Assembly

"It is more a problem of a juridical nature. The important thing is that the future congress have constituent powers, as if it were a fully convoked Constituent Assembly. It is customary to convoke a constituent assembly when there is a vacuum in the national representative government. But since there is a functioning representative power, I see only one reasonable solution: to attribute full constituent powers to the future congress, either through a constitutional amendment effected by the current congress or a bill drafted by the executive and submitted to the legislative branch."

Direct Elections

"Our campaign for direct elections has not ended. If there is still any chance of establishing them, we would support them, not only by conviction but in our own interest, because the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] will never lose in a direct election for the presidency of the republic. After every form of struggle for direct elections is exhausted, we will go to the Electoral College, but only with the idea of establishing direct elections as quickly as possible, seeing to it that the Electoral College will never meet again in Brazil."

Emergency Program

"The way to attend immediately to the neediest classes of the population would be through an emergency program, applied at short range. At long range, the program would consist in resuming economic development, because this is the only way we will generate more employment and more wages and, as a result, will have social peace and tranquility. However, since the resumption of development cannot be achieved overnight, the thinking of the Democratic Alliance and of my government team is to adopt an emergency program. This program will entail the creation of labor fronts to absorb more people and to combat the malnutrition in the districts and environs of the cities suffering the most."

Corruption

"The opposition proposes to restore civic dignity and honor to public service. The government will deal firmly with diversions of public funds and will be severe in punishing anyone who abuses public office for his own enrichment. This is not just lip service; we wish to reestablish the traditional high standard of pride in the exercise of public service."

Northeast

"I am bound to the Northeast by more than 2 million of my countrymen who reside in the "Polygon of the Drought." Minas Gerais is a northeastern state, because we have the same ills, the same hardships, the same suffering, the same nature and the same adversities. We cannot solve the problems of the Northeast with miracles or with rhetoric, but with hard work, with much study and, above all, with financial resources. Here, I must give credit to the government for drafting the Northeast Project, which is really returning SUDENE [Superintendency for Development of the Northeast] to its origins, and say that the government of Minas Gerais, in the Montes Claros meeting, submitted a program of recommendations to the leadership for a reexamination of the Northeast issue. It is not a closed or dogmatic program; it has omissions and shortcomings, but it is a contribution to the debate. In my opinion, the Northeast is the most important national program, with the highest priority of all the Brazilian problems, because we cannot leave more than 30 million Brazilians to their fate, virtually left out of the society."

Housing

"It is important that the BNH be completely reorganized. A bank becomes inviable when its borrowers are in a situation of permanent default because they cannot meet their loans, when these loans are tied to the commitments which Brazil assumed with the IMF. We have to rescind these commitments so that we can create more humane conditions, more favorable to the worker, because to expect him to pay out more than 20 percent of his wage in payments to the BNH is really an inequity and a social injustice."

Monetary Fund

"It is not a question of breaking off with the IMF, which is a credit cooperative in which Brazil has massive participation. To do this would be to break with the United Nations and with the OAS. It is in our best interest to remain a member, but with absolute independence, absolute autonomy, accepting everything that we consider just and rejecting anything that we consider to be an oppression and which does violence to our ambition to become a developed country."

Foreign Debt

"The debt must be handled, in the first place, maintaining our national sovereignty inviolate. In the second place, we will accept the conditions required by our creditors only if this does not mean another year of recession, which would mean more unemployment and more social injustice. We all wish to honor our commitments, but in such a way that there is no obstacle to our progress and our development as a nation."

Security Laws

"Reform of the National Security Law [LSN] is implicit in the Constituent, as well as the reform of the Electoral Law, revision of the Press Law, labor legislation, etc. We can say that, with regard to national security matters, the opposition has achieved a great deal. The first battle that we won was a bill, on my initiative, eliminating the death penalty. More recently, we succeeded in reducing all absurd and inappropriate penalties, having no bearing on the nature of the crime. Finally, we reduced the sentences for 38 crimes. The LSN is another arbitrary law, the result of dictatorship and authoritarianism. Radical reform is needed, but already it is not the same law that it was in 1964."

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CS0: 3342/152

PLAN FOR ACHIEVING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE WITHIN DECADE

Sao Paulo VISAO in Portuguese 30 Jul 84 pp 72-74

[Text] Encouraged by the positive results achieved in oil policy during his administration--a period in which national oil production increased from 170,000 to 500,000 barrels per day--Minister of Mines and Energy Cesar Cals has just released a detailed study prepared by his advisory staff which outlines the plans to make the country self-sufficient in energy within 10 years. Over-all, the plan envisages investing the fantastic sum of \$115.2 billion until 1993, \$51.5 billion in the oil area alone, in which a production of 1 million barrels a day is projected for that year. Of the total, the plan expects to obtain the equivalent of \$101.6 billion dollars in cruzeiros, that is, internally. It is a plan to be applied by Cals' successor.

With regard to oil, the plan will depend not only on the application of those funds but also on the development of the discovery of new fossil deposits, without which the increase of production can be compared to a check without funds written on behalf of the future of the country in the area of energy from finite sources. For that purpose, the reserves must increase to 4.2 billion barrels, whereas today they are 1.9 billion.

The plan details not only the investments necessary to raise the production of oil, natural gas and national alternative sources such as alcohol, charcoal, anthracite coal, electric energy, among others. The goal, therefore, is all-encompassing and considers the conditioning factors on the economic stage described in the document, "Brazil's External Debt: The Long-Term Outlook," prepared by the Brazilian Government and which served as a basis for the renegotiation of the foreign debt.

Merits of the Plan--According to Minister Cesar Cals, the goal of 1 million barrels of oil a day "in addition to being desirable is technically and economically possible." According to the minister's staff, "the conclusive conviction already exists that it is possible to achieve energy independence within a small margin of uncertainty."

With regard to the energy independence plan, it is possible to make a complete "cost-benefit" analysis having a priori the assurance of obtaining positive results. According to Minister Cals, the three greatest merits of the plan deserve to be mentioned:

- 1) Net savings of foreign exchange in the order of \$43 billion in the period 1984-93.;
- 2) Independence of the country with reference to oil supplies, both as pertains to the foreign exchange disbursed and the political instability of the region from which it comes, which always made the supply vulnerable.
- 3) Direct impact on the level of socio-economic development and indirect impact due to the freeing of funds formerly spent on imports and diverting them to other priority areas of the economy.

The basic premises for the success of the plan, according to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, are based on the efforts that must proceed in two directions: a) maintaining the national consumption of oil derivatives at the level of 1 million barrels a day; and b) increasing national oil production to the estimated level.

Gas and Alcohol

Minister Cals' document, natural gas assumes an important role in the supply of energy. Whereas today gas accounts for only a little more than the 30,000 equivalent barrels of oil a day, in 1987 that share will increase to 119,000 barrels; in 1990 to 165,000; and in 1993 to 229,000 barrels.

To increase the share of natural gas in the over-all consumption of energy, the minister's plans count on the 120 billion cubic meters discovered in the upper Jurua River in Amazonia. The plan also counts on the estimate that the production of 1 million barrels of oil a day would make possible the utilization of the gas associated with the oil in a volume equivalent to 139,000 barrels a day.

At the same time, the production of ethyl alcohol would amount to 19.7 billion liters by 1993, which would represent 1.8 times the production envisaged by PROALCOHOL, marking a rate of growth of 9.5 percent per year in relation to 1983 production. According to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the area needed for this production would be 4 million hectares, taking into account the increase of productivity of the cane. That area represents 8 percent of the area tilled in 1980 (47.3 million hectares) and 5 percent of the estimated tilled area for 1993 (81 million hectares). Six point five billion dollars would be necessary for that purpose, \$5.4 billion of which in distilleries and \$1.1 billion in cane fields.

Coal and Electricity

According to the plan, the production of anthracite coal would reach about 24.6 million tons of steam coal and 2.2 million tons of metallurgical coal in 1993. The investment required would be \$1 billion. Of the total steam coal, 14.3 million tons would represent consumption by the thermoelectric plants, while the remainder would be used for direct burning in industry.

Charcoal would also have an important role to play in that plan. According to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, wood would increase its penetration into the industrial sector, representing the equivalent of 202,000 barrels of oil a day in 1993, used mainly in the paper and cellulose and food and beverage sectors. The participation of the energy forests in the total supply of wood would amount to 20.4 percent, representing 173,000 equivalent barrels of oil a day.

For the electric sector, encompassing the construction of hydroelectric, coal-fired thermal plants, nuclear plants, wood and oil-fired thermal plants, the plan envisages investments of \$5.4 billion and the generation of 76,883 gigawatts.

Structure of the Demand

In order to implement that gigantic plan, it would first be necessary to know the demand for energy stemming from the activities of society as a whole. The level of economic-social activity and the manner of the development of society will determine the amount of energy that the energy sector will have to supply.

According to the ministry, the behavior of the technological conditioning factor in the course of time will determine the level of efficiency in the use of energy and the possibility of competition among the sources of energy to take care of the demand of each sector.

For that reason, a study of the behavior of energy demand up to 1993 was prepared. According to that study, residential, commercial and public demand would be 1.2 million equivalent barrels of oil a day with an annual rate of increase of 5.38 percent. The agricultural-livestock area would require the equivalent of 260,000 barrels of oil a day; industry, somewhere around 1.8 million barrels a day; and the transportation sector, about 845,000 barrels a day.

COMPARISON OF THE 'AUTONOMY' SCENARIO WITH OTHER OIL IMPORT FORECASTS

	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93
Imports of oil and derivatives forecast (1)	620	630	660	668	720	760	790	840	870	900
Imports of oil and derivatives in the "autonomy" program	539	383	331	305	379	253	200	-	-	-
Reduction of imports of oil and derivatives	81	247	329	375	441	507	590	840	870	900
Accumulated savings in foreign exchange up to the year (2)	0.9	3.6	7.2	11.3	16.1	21.7	28.1	37.3	46.9	56.7
Investments in the energy sector in the "autonomy" scenario (accumulated figures up to the year) (3)	6.7	10.3	18.3	32.9	41.7	52.8	66.9	80.1	96.1	115.2
Investments-savings in foreign exchanges (accumulated figures up to the year) (3)	5.8	6.7	11.1	21.6	25.6	29.1	38.8	42.8	49.2	58.5
Savings in foreign exchange/GDP (accumulated figures)	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.0
(in percentage)										

- (1) Imports forecast in the Brazilian Government document for negotiation with the World Bank entitled, "Brazil's External Debt: The Long-Term Outlook," (Revision 12-1-83).
- (2) Value of the dollar referred to 1983.
- (3) The investments though expressed in dollars include those made in national and foreign currency.

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CSO: 3342/148

EXPORT PROMOTION CENTER PLANNED IN ROTTERDAM

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Aug 84 p 32

[Text] Brazilian and Dutch officials and businessmen are moving to install a Brazilian center in Rotterdam, the primary purpose of which is to expand Brazil's trade with Europe and, from there, to gain entry into some other markets, including African markets. Currently, about 70 percent of the Brazilian merchandise reaching the Old Continent by sea enter via the port of Rotterdam. To promote the plan, W.L. Van Schaick, executive director of economic affairs of the city of Rotterdam, and M.J. Landman, director of international relations of the Chamber of Commerce of this Dutch city, considered the "seaport of Europe," were in Sao Paulo a few days ago.

According to J.M. Deckers, director-secretary of the Netherlands-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce, the officials attended a meeting organized by the Netherlands-Brazilian organization and conducted by its president F. Te Wolde, in which F. Kupers, the Netherlands ambassador to Brazil, Consul General J.W. Jansen and about 30 businessmen and officials participated.

As a representative of the city of Rotterdam, Van Schaick assured that the city government was prepared to offer financial, technical and other assistance to establish the Brazilian center there. The Brazilians would have almost no responsibility other than to maintain a director and a secretariat.

Paulo Straumard Pimentel, representing the Sao Paulo Secretariat of Industry and Commerce, expressed his government's interest in the initiative, in which it will collaborate. On behalf of the Dutch, Deckers also announced that a market study had already been commissioned regarding the probable development of sales of Brazilian goods in the Netherlands, the FRG, England, Belgium and France. The secretary of the Netherlands-Brazilian Chamber stressed that, using the port of Rotterdam, Brazilian exporters could place their products in any point in Europe within 24 hours. A Brazilian center there, including warehouses to store export merchandise, would considerably broaden Brazil's potential as a supplier to Europe and other continents.

At the end of the meeting, the participants signed a statement approving the proposals offered, of great interest to all of them. Many countries maintain offices in Rotterdam, including China and other Far Eastern countries, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Mexico. The visiting Dutch officials should hold a similar meeting with businessmen and authorities in Rio de Janeiro.

ARMY HIGH COMMAND REJECTS IDEA OF MILITARY CANDIDATE

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Aug 84 p 7

[Article by Clovis Rossi]

[Text] The Army High Command, by a large majority, has rejected the idea of a military candidacy, proposed by Army Minister General Valter Pires in a closely guarded meeting, held in Brasilia on 13 July.

The security was such that the members of the command who reside outside Brasilia were instructed to come unaccompanied to the meeting. For this reason, they arrived in the capital in the evening, wearing civilian clothes, and stayed in different hotels. The following morning, still in mufti, they met with the minister.

Valter Pires explained the succession picture and proposed the idea of a military candidacy, giving the impression that he himself would be the candidate, although at no time did he formally announce such a candidacy. The minister's argument: the candidacy of Tancredo Neves was surrounded by leftists.

Most of the 12 members of the High Command observed, however, that if there were leftists in the camp of the governor of Minas Gerais, there were also a good many people trusted by the regime, which refuted Pires' theory. According to information obtained by FOLHA, at least eight generals took a position against a military candidacy.

The meeting took place precisely 24 hours before Vice President Aureliano Chaves and his comrades of the Liberal Front formally broke with the PDS [Social Democratic Party], but, at that point, it was already obvious that a split was imminent and that the front was headed toward an understanding with the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], which would provide broad electoral viability to the Tancredo Neves candidacy in the Electoral College.

The decision of the High Command, which was important in itself, also permits some observations:

1. In proposing a military candidacy to prevent Tancredo from reaching office, Minister Valter Pires was implicitly admitting that it would be difficult to defeat the Minas Gerais governor with what remained of the PDS in the Electoral College.

2. If he is not being vetoed by the military, Tancredo is meeting with strong resistance in the inner circles of the government, to the point that it would attempt the extreme maneuver of a military candidacy at the very moment when it should be furthering the withdrawal of the Armed Forces from power.

Having survived this first attempt to block him, Tancredo Neves' candidacy will be exposed to further attacks, which in fact have already begun. The most recent issue of the magazine LETROS EM MARCA, with a large circulation among the military, published a strong article in opposition to the governor of Minas Gerais, comparing him to Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, in the sense that he intends to bring military officers to trial.

If an accusation like this one appears even before the Minas governor's campaign is formally launched, it is not difficult to imagine what will happen when the pro-Tancredo rallies begin, particularly if, as expected, the same red banners appear that adorned the rallies for direct elections.

Along with the offensive of the intelligence services--those most determined to maintain the status quo, at any cost--it may be imagined that the government itself will be interested in doing everything possible to prevent Tancredo's victory. The easiest way would actually be a military candidacy, which would break up the PDS dissidents. Ruling out that possibility, it remains for the government machine to support the candidate whom the PDS will nominate tomorrow to compete for the presidency.

The notorious capacity of this machine for cooptation and corruption will not, it seems obvious, win over the principal leaders of the Front, such as Aureliano Chaves and Marco Maciel, but it could easily attract the lesser figures in the Liberal Front, reducing the dissidence to levels that would not prevent the victory of the official candidate.

This task will be extremely easy if Minister Mario Andreazza wins the nomination of the PDS convention, since he is Figueiredo's preferred candidate and has been his friend for 30 years. If, as is probable, Maluf wins the nomination, the big question will be: Will Figueiredo accept the former governor of Sao Paulo, even after suffering two defeats at his hands?

This question could explain the reasons for the Tancredists' efforts on behalf of Maluf's victory in the PDS convention, on one hand, and the effort of the Minas governor (with the approval of Pernambuco Governor Roberto Magalhaes) to move up the date of the indirect election.

6362
CS0: 3342/152

FIBGE NOTES 2.48 PERCENT POPULATION INCREASE ANNUALLY

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Aug 84 p 21

[Text] The Brazilian population numbered 128 million last year, a growth of 2.48 percent over 1982. As the population increased, so did unemployment, which reached 2.3 million people, representing 4.88 percent of the PEA (Economically Active Population), which currently stands at 48.3 million people nationwide. In the same period, the bracket of those earning the minimum wage or less increased: 17 million workers, or 37 percent of the PEA. The rural exodus also increased last year. The rural population now represents only 29 percent of the 128 million Brazilians; in 1960, it represented 56 percent of the population.

These data are contained in the PNAD (National Household Sample Survey), released yesterday by Jesse Montello, president of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (FIBGE). As in past years, the survey was conducted in individual households, covering the various regions of Brazil.

Jesse Montello thought the figures for last year's survey were "good." He acknowledged that the unemployment figure reached in the survey (2.3 million) is lower than the estimates of the Labor Ministry itself, which indicates more than 7 million people unemployed during last year. Montello explained that, unlike the Labor Ministry, which bases its unemployment figures on the manpower needs of industry, trade and services, the FIBGE enumerates, in each household, the number of persons unemployed on the day of the survey. For this reason, the figure will always be lower than in other surveys, because an individual respondent who is a street vendor or who guards cars may say he is employed, and is listed as such.

For a growth rate of 2.48 percent per year ("extremely high," according to Jesse Montello), the PIB (Gross Domestic Product) would have to grow by about 5 percent annually. (Last year there was a 3.5 percent decline.)

Employment, Housing and Wages Among the Survey Items

Unemployment

Last year, nationwide, unemployment reached 2.35 million, representing 4.88 percent of the economically active population, which was 48.2 million in that period. The unemployment figure in 1983 was higher than in 1982 and in 1981. In 1982, unemployment reached 1.8 million nationwide (3.91 percent of the

economically active population) and in 1981 there were 1.8 million unemployed (4.23 percent of the economically active population).

The highest unemployment rate was in the Southeastern Region (Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo): 1.3 million people in 1983, or 6.04 percent of the economically active population in the region. The lowest rate of unemployment was in the Northern Region, with 52,000 jobless; the next lowest was in the Central West, with 102,000 unemployed.

Rural Exodus

The rural migration (flight from the country to the city) increased sharply in 1983. Last year, city dwellers represented 71 percent of the Brazilian population (128 million people), which means that 90 million people today are residing in urban areas.

In 1983, country dwellers represented only 29 percent of the entire population, or 37 million people. In 1960, for example, country dwellers represented 56 percent of the Brazilian population. In 1970, the number had fallen to 46 percent and last year it was only 29 percent.

Housing

Despite the increase in unemployment and the decline in the purchasing power of wages, the number of home buyers in relation to renters has increased in recent years.

In 1983, home purchases represented 63 percent of real estate transactions, as against 61 percent in 1980 and 60 percent in 1970. Home renters declined from 22 percent in 1983 to 19 percent in 1970 [sentence as published].

Wages

The largest group of Brazilian workers earn the minimum wage (currently 97,176 cruzeiros) or less. In 1983, 17 million workers fell into this group, representing 37 percent of the economically active population of 48.2 million. Those earning up to five times the minimum wage (485,880 cruzeiros) numbered 41 million workers, representing 86 percent of the economically active population.

The number of people who earned the minimum wage or less (17 million people) increased over 1981 (16 million people). In the bracket up to five times the minimum wage, there was also a reduction, from 42 million in 1981 to 41 million in 1983.

In the bracket above 10 times the minimum wage (971,760 cruzeiros), there were 2 million people in 1983, representing 4.85 percent of the economically active population (48.2 million), an increase over prior years. In 1982, for example, 3.68 percent of the economically active population fell in this bracket.

Age Group

Brazil continues to be a nation of young people. In 1983, there were 47 million Brazilians under the age of 15, or 37 percent of the entire population of

128 million. In the age group from 15 to 60 years, there were 71 million Brazilians, representing 56 percent of the population. There were 8 million people over 60 years of age, representing 6 percent of the population.

The number of people up to 15 years of age has decreased in recent years, however. In 1970 this group represented 42 percent of the population; it was 38 percent in 1980 and in 1983 it declined to 37 percent. The number of people in the group from 15 to 60 years of age is increasing, from 52 percent of the population in 1970 to 56 percent in 1983.

6362

CSO: 3342/152

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

ALCOHOL TECHNOLOGY FOR CUBA—Brazil could provide equipment and technology for Bulgaria to install a distillery in Cuba for the production of carburetant alcohol. Direct sales to Cuba are impossible at this time because Cuba does not have diplomatic relations with Brazil. Details of the operation, which in practice breaks the economic boycott currently imposed on the country of Fidel Castro, won preliminary agreement yesterday between Camilo Pena, minister of industry and trade, and Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Kristo Kristos. [Text] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Aug 84 p 7] 6362

CSO: 3342/152

MENDOZA DISCUSSES VIOLENCE, PARTY LAW, POLITICS

Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 8 Aug 84 pp 8-10

[Interview with the director general of Carabineros, Gen Cesar R. Mendoza, by M. Isabel Fernandez; date and place not given]

[Text] It has always been said of him that of the four members of the Government Junta, he is the one with the "most news." This time was no exception. He unintentionally let it be known that the long awaited political party laws might be ready by this coming 11 September. "I would be delighted if that were the case," he confessed. "I don't have all the background information, but I think, I think that they will be out."

The director general of Carabineros, Cesar R. Mendoza Duran, is by nature an open man. He does not dodge any issue, although he admits that he is tired of political questions. He would rather talk about his institution, its accomplishments and its projects for the future.

In recent weeks, however, Chile's Carabineros have not made news on that front. Instead, they have had to exchange their distinguishing green uniforms for deep mourning. The death of Lt Julio Alberto Allende Ovalle from the 26th police station in Pudahuel on the night of Thursday 26 July, as a result of an extremist ambush, shocked the country and once again jolted the Carabineros. So far this year, four Carabineros have been killed under similar circumstances.

"The extremists are seeking an open confrontation with law enforcement agencies and do not care about the number of victims," he says. "Their goal is to frighten the citizenry and blame the police for the atmosphere of terror that they have created in a number of towns."

He then adds emphatically:

"Terrorism is engaged in an organized campaign against the government, against the country, and the first target on the way towards that goal is our institution, because we are the primary restraining wall against the extremists. But they will never succeed in surmounting us."

Grieved but calm, General Mendoza broaches this issue and other current national issues with equal assurance and aplomb, from the turmoil that has broken out in some districts of Santiago to the onerous issue of the national debt. All but anticipating the question, he settles into his armchair, crosses his arms and says: "Alright, go ahead and ask me."

[Question] General, the death of Lieutenant Allende has agains brought up the issue of violence. The climate of terror in some towns has gotten to the point that neither the Carabineros nor minibus drivers nor the residents themselves dare enter certain areas because they would be risking their lives. How could we have gotten to this extreme?

[Answer] We have gotten to this extreme because of tolerance in many respects. It so happens that when a lad is arrested for committing an act of disorderly conduct, an act of violence, an insignificant one, shall we say, he is placed in the custody of the courts and released the same evening. Look, for people to have respect, they have to be afraid of something.

[Question] What has been lacking then? Where have we gone wrong?

[Answer] We need laws that hold citizens who commit crimes truly responsible. Theoretically such laws exist, of course. But our trial system is more than 100 years old, and we need more specific and realistic penalties. In short, we need police and court action under which individuals who commit crimes will be held responsible and punished accordingly.

[Question] But we are talking now about thoroughly indoctrinated and superbly trained extremists, not common criminals.

[Answer] There are out-and-out extremists and criminals who become extremists. The latter are skillfully taken advantage of. They take these criminals and say to them: Instead of being a criminal, why don't you become a hero? And they pay them then.

There are underground organizations that are imparting military training, we could call it, to engage in a full-fledged urban guerrilla war. This is a fact.

[Question] Would you say that we are entering into a stage of such an urban guerrilla war?

[Answer] This is the beginning. Thus, if we fail to take drastic action right now, the problem could become complicated. And the drastic action should not be taken just by the police but by all the authorities: administrative, judicial...

[Question] The political authorities too?

[Answer] Maybe...

[Question] Wouldn't moving up the timetable or loosening the political reins help to cut down on the violence?

[Answer] I don't think that loosening the political reins would put an end to the violence. To put an end to violence we first have to put an end to the people who practice violence.

[Question] And put an end to unemployment as well...

[Answer] Perhaps. But the fact is that there are many prescriptions and many halfway solutions as well. One of them might be unemployment. But crime has always existed...

[Question] With specific regard to police matters, in direct connection with your institution, the residents of these towns themselves are complaining about inadequate police protection. They do not feel that they are being protected.

[Answer] Of course they're right. We've been saying this all along. A lot of people tell us: "Send us more men." Where from? I ask them. To send them to La Bandera I have to take them from La Legua or Jose Maria Caro. We can't work miracles because our force is just about as large as when Santiago had 500,000 inhabitants.

[Question] Well, can't that be remedied?

[Answer] I can't do anything about it. I don't draw up the budget, unfortunately.

[Question] As the director general of Carabineros, then, what would you say to the residents who feel threatened every day by the climate of violence?

[Answer] What I would say first is this: we will always be doing our utmost to counter this wave of violence, but what we need most is their genuine cooperation. Why? Because it so happens that when we try to arrest one of these boys who engage in violence, crime, muggings or whatever you want to call it, the locals are the first to help them.

They hide them. And then, if they are later arrested, the solidarity vicarship immediately files an "amparo" appeal, immediately. Before they even get to the police station, the amparo appeals have been filed. My question, then, is: Is this any way to cooperate with the police? Obviously not. It's cooperating with crime. And we see this every day.

Laws and Parties

[Question] Let's talk politics, general, about the political parties laws. When you inaugurated the activities of the Third Legislative Commission this year, you indicated that "the future political parties law must prevent them from turning into fiefdoms for promoting personal ambitions and interests." What did you mean?

[Answer] We have to remember that until 1970 a group of no more than 15 people did as they pleased with a party's factions and ideals. They imposed a candidate, and you had to vote for him. I ask: Is that really democracy? Everyone is always talking about democracy, the people and involvement. I again ask: Is that democracy?

[Question] What, then, would your ideal in this regard be?

[Answer] Genuine political movements with their own authentically democratic internal governance, real, authentic, tangible parties in which a citizen from Chanco, Lonquimay, Aisen or Copiapo can become truly involved, in which his opinion is taken into account. I ask: Were citizens from Chanco or Lonquimay ever asked whether this or that candidate was to their liking? No, never. Not even people from Talca or Concepcion were asked, because everything was decided here in Santiago. This is what we have to avoid.

[Question] The week before last you indicated that the commission you chair would make observations concerning the formation of regional parties and the number of signatures needed to create political groups. Do you have any misgivings about the regional parties?

[Answer] The idea of regional parties worries me, because at best, with the best intentions, we could see negative results. Let's suppose that a leader emerges in a region and says: No, gentlemen, I'm going to guide the country's destinies with this regional party. Then comes the break.

There would also be breaks within parties because people would be denied the chance to belong to another, nationwide party. Sectarianism would be accentuated. And someday someone might say: Comrades, my fellow Chileans, this is a God-forsaken region; let us secede from the rest of the country. And then comes a war of secession. This is why the issue worries me, but we are talking it over, working it out.

[Question] With regard to the number of signatures, do you share the view of Admiral Merino and General Matthei that 35,000 should be the limit?

[Answer] I haven't taken a stand on whether this is too few or too many. I have voiced concern on this issue as well. Because if we make a comparison of sorts, how many members of the Colo Colo soccer club are registered and have paid their dues? Not many. But when there's a big game, the Colo Colo fans show up, as well as the members of the club that are not registered and that have not paid their dues. Doesn't this give you some idea of what a political movement would be like? This is why the issue worries me, and my concern is finding out whether this is too many or too few.

[Question] Specifically, however, do you think that 150,000 signatures is too much to ask?

[Answer] That is unquestionably a lot of signatures. But perhaps it is not that many. Why? Because until the 1950's or 1960's, 500,000 people used to vote. To form a political party you needed 10,000 members. Well, estimates are that there are seven million voters today. That's why I don't want to take a stand yet. But as far as the law itself is concerned, I like it. I think that it meets the goals that we are pursuing.

[Question] But why have there been so many delays and such a slow pace in the study of these laws? Doesn't the government realize that we have to move forward in this regard?

[Answer] Of course it does. But all this takes time, so that we the same mistakes as in the past.

[Question] There is talk, however, that the laws might be ready by next 11 September...

[Answer] I hope so. Personally, I would do it. I would be delighted if it happened. It is my understanding that there was some talk in that regard and it would be carrying out an idea that has been floating around.

[Question] So the lists might be ready by the 11th?

[Answer] Look, I don't have all the background, but I think that they're going to be out, I think.

[Question] What would you say is the main problem in Chile today: the political or the economic problem?

[Answer] It is difficult to separate them. If people's pockets were full, they would care a lot less about politics. Perhaps they would get involved in the philosophical aspect of politics. But since

our recession has been and still is very severe, not so much because of poor management as because of the fallout from the worldwide recession, politics and economics go hand in hand today.

[Question] So you're not among those who criticize the dogmatism with which the government pursued its economic policy?

[Answer] There was a little bit of everything, but not as much as people would have you believe. A series of mistakes might well have been made. Money was wasted, of course it was wasted. But you have to learn from your mistakes.

"We Have to Work Hard"

[Question] And aren't you worried about the \$20 billion foreign debt?

[Answer] Of course I am! But complaining gets us nowhere. We have to make headway.

[Question] You said that we have to learn from our mistakes. Have we learned our lesson or do we still have a long way to go? Are you optimistic about our economic future?

[Answer] Yes, I'm optimistic. But there are no magic solutions in this regard. My only recommendation would be that Chileans learn that they should not spend more than they earn. On a more general level, I would say that we ought to follow the example of the countries that have become powers in industry and the economy, countries that to get out of trouble have worked all out, without stopping. We have to work and work hard to succeed.

[Question] Work where? many will ask.

[Answer] The job opportunities will start cropping up. Look, they're already emerging. This, fortunately, is true. If you ask me for figures, of course, I don't have them right now. But there is movement; all of these processes are slow. Solutions do not come overnight, but we are doing better in this regard. We're moving.

[Question] One year into the so-called "opening," do you think that we can say that "we're doing fine" in this arena?

[Answer] What do you call an opening? The opening is taking place by itself! Now then, what some people want is for it to come about all at once. In other words, to knock down the door. That's a lot different, isn't it?

[Question] And how would you open the door?

[Answer] We have to open it just a little, and if there's a huge rush, we have to close it a bit. And when the conditions are right for opening the door gradually without having people knock it down or slam it behind you, then it can be opened all the way. But people are fascinated by the word opening...

[Question] Not the word but what it means...

[Answer] What happened was that many hopes were created. Some people thought that when Jarpa arrived he would throw open the door and the rush would begin. And Jarpa has come out looking like quite an ogre (he comments laughing).

[Question] Do you agree with Jarpa's suggestion that the government's supporters join together in a single front?

[Answer] That might be possible. The truth is that everyone will have to decide for themselves.

[Question] Democratic Alliance has called another protest for 4 September. What do you think of this?

[Answer] By itself protest is a natural reaction on the part of people who disagree with certain ideas. From that standpoint, I accept it. But it so happens that in Chile protest is synonymous with violence, attacks on public and private property, attacks against the authorities and all of their ramifications. If that is what protest means, then we have to pay attention, careful attention.

8743

CSO: 3348/549

CHILE

BRIEFS

PARTIES DISCUSS CENTRIST FEDERATION--Talks aimed at hammering out an agreement to form a centrist federation continued yesterday. A leader involved in these efforts stated that "there have not yet been any new developments. For the time being we are still talking, but nothing has taken shape yet." He contended, nevertheless, that the talks could achieve their goal in 10 days or so. Some of the main obstacles reportedly have to do with recognition of the constitution and a stand on communism. The centrist federation would consist of the National Party, the Liberal Movement, Republican Right, the National Democratic Party and Radical Union. These groups have already made contact with each other in this regard, and some of them have even met with Christian Democrat leaders with an eye towards creating a "great democratic consensus" once the federation is formed. It was explained that the consensus would be based on previously stipulated points but with a prompt return to democracy as the central demand. [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 17 Aug 84 p C-3] 8743

CSO: 3348/549

MALMIERCA ON U.S. POLICY; CALLS FOR L.A. SOLIDARITY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 1 Aug 84 pp 1A, 22A

[Article by Jaime Contreras S.]

[Text] Havana, 31 Jul--Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, Cuban minister of foreign relations, told EXCELSIOR this morning that "Mexico's position, not only in the Contadora Group, but throughout all of its foreign policy, has been consistent and has greatly strengthened relations between brother nations in the search for detente in Central America and the Caribbean, aiming at lasting peace in the Latin American region.

Questioned shortly after giving a press conference to participants in the Ninth Latin American Seminar of Journalists held in this city, Malmierca said that Mexican's posture on his country "has been consistent and we believe that the policy of President De la Madrid enables us to look toward the peace that we all want on our continent."

He said that the coming days will witness a round of talks with the United States -- the second following the visit of then candidate for the Democratic nomination for the presidency, Jesse Jackson -- for the purpose of laying the foundations for the future repatriation of Cubans who in 1980 left their country through the Peruvian Embassy.

The foreign minister emphasized that "we do not see much difference" between the Reagan Administration or Democratic candidate Walter Mondale, inasmuch as he recalled that the Bay of Pigs was organized by a Democratic president.

Malmierca, accompanied by Ernesto Vera, president of the Cuban Union of Newsmen, said that all Latin America has the obligation to fight to prevent an invasion of Nicaragua, El Salvador or Cuba itself, but he warned that "our country is prepared with 2.1 million militiamen to face any outside aggression."

He noted that as long as "imperialism continues to violate the rights of the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean specifically, there can be no progress. The United States has to understand that the time of inequalities has passed."

Grenada, Nerve Center

The Cuban foreign minister condemned the fact that the United States should use Honduran territory as a military base, where it has supplied itself. "As a result of the lack of any political decision, our work is to bring about worldwide rejection for any possible intervention in the brother nations of Central America and create a Latin American awareness of the enormous risks of such a conflagration."

Malmierca Peoli said that his country does not support war as a means of solving international conflicts and added that the invasion of Grenada and the conflict in the Malvinas were specific actions by the United States, "which demonstrated to Latin American people who our real enemy is."

Concise and quick in his replies as a diplomat, the Cuban foreign minister stated that "we are not interested in having relations with the countries that decided to break with us since Punta del Este. We want talks between peoples. But we are not going to give up any of our principles in order to have more relations with those nations."

He was then questioned about the Contadora posture on the Latin American situation, to which Malmierca Peoli replied by weighing the attitudes of the Mexican, Colombian, Panamanian and Venezuelan governments aiming at a real political solution in order to prevent intervention by any outside power in Central America.

He denied that the Soviet Union would defend Cuba directly in the case of a possible armed American intervention. He emphasized that the geographic situation is particularly difficult in such a case and confirmed that "our desire is peace because war is the end."

Costa Rica, Obvious Military Base

Malmierca said that "it is obvious that Costa Rican territory is being used as a base for the counterrevolutionaries who are trying to overthrow the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua" and although a newsman from Costa Rica denied it, the Cuban minister of foreign relations insisted.

He expressed the opinion that the rising interest rates, resulting from the pressures of international financial institutions such as the IMF, "are forcing Latin American nations to live in debt eternally, which is highly dangerous for world stability."

He also spoke of the use of information by the big transnational monopolies and said that "we are trying to change these attitudes because it is not only a process of distortion, but the whole world is being poisoned in the long run."

Malmierca deemed it an opportune time to make an appeal to brother nations in Latin America to persevere in their fight against monopolistic activities on the economic, political and social levels and said specifically that "with

the United States, we are willing to negotiate the matters pertaining to the immigrants at the present time, but we shall not give up our sovereignty in order to do so. We are not in a hurry. We have lived for 25 years in this way and we can wait."

"In 1980, after the events at the Peruvian Embassy, then President Carter said that he would open his arms and his heart to the 12,000 Cubans who left the island. Consequently, we think that the greatest responsibility lies with the person calling them. We knew that they were not the best men, the best representatives of our country, but they decided to leave. If they want to negotiate, we will, but we are not in a hurry."

Finally, Malmierca said that the future of Latin American peoples is difficult because conditions are negative for most of these nations. He said that an intervention continues to be very dangerous and Cuba is not willing to accept such a thing. "We are a peaceful people, but we are in a state of constant defense of our revolution."

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CSO: 3248/756

JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO UNDERGO EXPANSION

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 3 Jul 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Obdulio Velazco]

[Text] The expansion and rebuilding of Jose Marti International Airport was declared a UJC [Union of Young Communists] National Emergency Project at a ceremony presided over by Julio Camacho Aguilera, a member of the Politburo and the party's first secretary in Havana.

Around 230 million pesos will be spent, 103 million on construction and installation. Part of the original airport's existing refurbished runway will remain, but taxiways will be built to expand operations and enhance flight safety at the same operating cost.

The construction under way will occupy about 8.8 square kilometers, 5 of which will be taken up by the main buildings and facilities in the project.

Also scheduled for construction is a new air terminal that will be able to handle 23 aircraft on the preterminal deck. It will be able to handle some 2,000 passengers an hour, which is 8 times the current capacity.

The first stage of the construction includes the technical facility for maintaining and repairing aircraft (which is done overseas at present), the logistics facility and warehouses. Extremely complex hydraulic projects are being built to prevent flooding.

The beautifully remodeled airport will also include a hotel, which will make it easier for passengers to make airline connections and will facilitate flight crew changes. Modern air traffic control systems are being installed that will place the airport in compliance with the highest international standards.

In his summation, Aldo Alvarez, a member of the party's bureau in Havana, stated that 26.1 million pesos have been invested so far in construction and installation work. The budget for this year is 14 million pesos.

He added that a detachment of more than 200 young people, whose vanguard consists of 45 UJC activists, would work hard and steadily to insure that the commitments are fulfilled.

Alvarez pointed out that the young construction workers have informed the party of their decision to work harder each day to gain a place among the country's outstanding Emergency Project crews.

During the ceremony, Camacho Aguilera presented the Emergency Project banner to Juan Peralta. Maximo Amador, the head of the Department of Youth Workers of the UJC, read the resolution proclaiming this major project, and Roberto Miranda, a standout youth, read the commitments on behalf of his comrades.

Also attending the ceremony were Carlos Lage, an alternate member of the party's Central Committee and first secretary of the National Committee of the UJC, and Georgina Leyva, a member of the party's Central Committee, among others.

8743

CSO: 3248/753

CTC RESOLUTION IN WAKE OF GENERAL WAGE REFORM

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 7 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] Resolution on the Organization of Work and Wages

The principle of remuneration based on the quality and quantity of work is a fundamental element in promoting higher productivity and constantly upgrading skills. Work cannot be properly organized unless a worker is motivated by the results of his efforts.

We can assert that we are making progress in applying this principle of socialist distribution. This assertion is based on the increase in productivity achieved through a better utilization of the workday resulting from the steady application of the Basic Organization of Work. The bonus systems have been extended, and the various systems of remuneration based on the quality and quantity of work have been honed as mechanisms for boosting wages. Progress has also been made in extra pay for abnormal working conditions, the economic and social interest coefficient, night shifts, seniority, multiple trades, the simultaneous practice of two or more professions, etc.

In spite of these successes, there are still areas in which we must continue to work harder.

Because most standards are for the most part elementary, they suffer from shortcomings, caused by the lack of experience, the shortage and the low skill level of the essential technical staff but above all by management's frequent failure to make proper use of the work organization experts and especially of standardization workers.

The experience gained in dealing with downtime through labor and wage mechanisms has shown that the work force is underutilized in some enterprises, that others are in a position to use them to meet the requirements of regional technical-economic plans, and that in many cases they are not well suited to the particular features of certain branches and sectors of the economy.

The review of the technical positions qualifiers has moved slowly, and we have lacked a policy for periodically reviewing the qualifiers

of the occupations of blue-collar workers and services and administrative workers. This has led to the isolated approval of new positions and occupations, which hampers uniformity at budgeted enterprises and units and violates the principle of "equal pay for equal work."

Even though the General Wage Reform has helped to further the principle of socialist distribution, has aligned the wages of workers in all job categories, has boosted the wages of the lowest-income workers and has established payment for work done, instead of payment by title, for technicians, there are some serious shortcomings, such as: serious delays in certifying self-trained technicians, which has prevented them from moving up the wage scale. Moreover, with regard to the older, experienced self-trained technicians, management and the labor unions have been lax in asking the CETSS [State Committee for Labor and Social Security] to authorize movement up the wage scale. In addition, the requests have at times not met the stated requirements. In connection with both the provisional and the final evaluations of technicians, there have been delays in paying out the wages that correspond to the changes in levels that were supposed to be made.

In view of all of the above, the 15th Congress of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] adopts the following resolution:

First: To spur, develop and consolidate the Basic Organization of Work at all enterprises, budgeted units and establishments. To promote the definition of minimum requirements in keeping with the particular features of each branch and in coordination with the factors in each province, so as to define requirements of common interest in applying the Basic Organization of Work. This effort should be part of the plan and discussed along with control figures, including the wage measures that will be taken.

Second: To promote studies on the standardization and utilization of the workday, to eliminate downtime due both to technical and organizational problems and to violations of work discipline.

Third: To more strictly enforce the Regulations and Methodology of Work Standardization, to enhance the quality of the existing standards, to demand the optimization of primary controls, to spur the drafting, use, revision and control of the catalogs of enterprise standards.

Fourth: To pay particular attention to the spread of the Basic Organization of Work in the Standing Production Brigades, in agricultural enterprises and in the Integrated Brigades in Industry and other production sectors.

Fifth: To encourage management to continue making greater use of the various systems of remuneration based on performance, remuneration by agreement, finished field and, in particular, the gradual replacement of piece work by *lxl* in industry.

Sixth: To establish plans aimed at seeing to it that as many as workers as possible are included in the bonus systems and to demand that

regulations be economically efficient and understandable, provide incentives and further the economic awareness of our workers, while making sure that the bonus regulations are periodically evaluated.

The criteria for awarding bonuses should be designed mainly to boost conservation, quality, productivity and earnings.

Seventh: To continue expanding and honing the systems of special bonuses that encourage conservation of fuel, energy and other material resources, as well as the higher production of exportable goods, and to demand that the formalities for approving them be speeded up.

Eighth: To demand that studies be conducted and/or completed on abnormal working conditions so that they can be eliminated wherever possible, and if such conditions persist, to include them in the wage fund program so that workers exposed to such conditions are paid extra.

Ninth: To demand the proper utilization of the standardization workers and technicians in the Organization of Work and Wages, in the activities related to their specialty, in order to achieve the objectives set forth in this resolution.

Tenth: To ask the CETSS to speed up its review of current legislation on work downtime and to ask that whatever new legislation is enacted enable specific regulations to be drafted in the various branches and sectors of the economy and that workers in jobs that have been temporarily suspended be provisionally relocated in reasonably acceptable jobs in other enterprises, budgeted units and establishments in the region.

Eleventh: To demand the execution of the plans established for the review of the qualifiers of technical positions, based on the results of their experimental application since the General Wage Reform.

Twelfth: To ask the CETSS to draft and apply a new methodology for evaluating the occupations included in the qualifiers of blue-collar workers, services workers and administrative workers, as well as to update them with a view towards eliminating the current situation in which new positions and occupations not contained in the existing qualifiers are approved one-by-one, and to periodically update the qualifiers that are approved.

Thirteenth: To demand that management pay more attention to the further development of self-trained technicians and make it as easy as possible for them to attain certification by establishing specific programs that will enable them to complete this task as quickly as possible.

Fourteenth: To ask the pertinent agencies and national unions to give consideration as quickly as possible to the petition to the CETSS in connection with those self-trained technicians who meet the legally established requirements so that they can move up the wage scale for their positions.

Fifteenth: To ask the unions to demand that the deadlines set for evaluating technicians and wage scale positions be met and that the union bureaus and sections take part in this and insure that it is done properly.

Sixteenth: To promote periodic aktivs and gatherings to assess the development of work organization and to spur the execution of their main resolutions.

Seventeenth: To insure the proper functioning of the commissions for the evaluation of blue-collar workers, services workers and administrative workers and to see to it that they receive periodic refresher training.

Eighteenth: To continue enrolling more and more of the workers doing this job in both intermediate and upper-level technical courses and in the courses taught at labor and union schools in the provinces.

Nineteenth: In the field of work organization and wages, to systematically expand the refresher training for leaders, especially in union sections and bureaus, through courses, workshops, seminars, etc.

Twentieth: In spite of the efforts that the CETSS and the CTC have been making to publicize labor legislation as widely as possible, what has been done is inadequate. Therefore, efforts must be redoubled so that information on labor legislation reaches the rank and file and is available to all workers.

Twenty-First: All organizations involved in decision-making on wage-related matters must give responses to the workers more quickly, inasmuch as on occasions it has taken up to a year for workers to learn the findings of studies on abnormal conditions, bonus regulations, revision of standards, etc.

Twenty-Second: To demand enforcement of the staggered workday in Havana and to call for a study of how the system can be geared to the particular features of areas with a heavy concentration of work centers, as well as to promote studies on how to extend the system to other provincial capitals that might require it.

Twenty-Third: Even though the CETSS has issued legislation concerning multiple trades and the practice of two or more professions at the same time, this legislation has been inadequately utilized. Its enforcement must be promoted because of the manpower savings it would represent and because of its contribution to higher productivity.

Twenty-Fourth: To ask the CETSS to meet with the appropriate agencies and after hearing the views of the CTC and the sugar, agricultural and forestry unions, to issue the regulations governing the use of family assistance in cane and noncane farming in accordance with the principles of existing labor legislation.

Twenty-Fifth: To reaffirm the resolutions of the 14th Congress of the CTC regarding union consideration for workers declared available while that status still applies to them. To ask the CETSS to review the legislation that sets forth the labor and wage treatment of available workers.

Twenty-Sixth: The congress charges the Council and the National Committee of the CTC to take whatever measures will insure that this resolution is carried out.

8743

CSO: 3248/757

UNECA DIRECTOR IN ANGOLA REVIEWS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Havana TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA in Spanish 29 Jul 84 p 6

[Article by Candido Dominguez: "UNECA in Angola"]

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola has become familiar over the past several years with the red and blue initials of the Union of Caribbean Construction Enterprises (UNECA).

Dozens of trucks, cranes and other heavy equipment bearing these five letters are frequently seen circulating in the streets of Luanda, the nation's capital, as well as in other major provincial capitals.

In Sumbe, the capital of Cuanza Sur, they are hastening the construction of dozens of buildings containing hundreds of housing units for the people; In Huambo they are improving conditions at the airport, and in Viana they are doing excavation work for water supply and sewer systems.

They can also be found rebuilding a bridge over the Cutato River in the province of Bie, a bridge that is part of the highway that links the provinces of Malanje and Bie, or traveling in convoys along the roads leading to any of the abovementioned cities, transporting needed supplies to construction sites and defying the sneaky ambushes of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] traitors.

These are some of the ongoing, courageous activities that thousands of Cuban construction workers in UNECA are engaged in, aware as they are of how important their work is to the economic and social progress of this African country.

In spite of the material constraints and the harassment by enemy bands, the men in the white hard hats are standing firm along this battlefield of the revolution in Africa. Their response is to remain alert and to work more tenaciously and enthusiastically.

First Steps

"The forerunner of what today is UNECA in Angola emerged in 1977 when the Cuban Government, in response to a request from the country's authorities, formed a brigade of internationalist construction workers to rebuild the bridges that the South African and Zairian invaders had blown up," recalls Enrique Orta, the union's director.

"The number of construction workers increased steadily," he goes on to say, "and in addition to the bridges, they built numerous apartment buildings in Luanda, Benguela, Sumbe, Saurimo, Luena and Bie.

"Among other projects, we also expanded the port of Luanda, built and assembled a Giron-technology prefabs plant, installed public utilities in the town of Viana and built a factory and a school in Huambo," the leader stated.

He talked about how hard UNECA has tried to achieve the highest possible quality and to meet its deadlines in undertaking the construction projects for which it has signed contracts with Angolan agencies and organizations.

Number One UNECA Affiliate

Orta's comments explain why the UNECA contingent in Angola was selected the union's outstanding overseas affiliate in 1983.

"Last year we exceeded our goal, hitting 17.3 million pesos. This year's target is 1 million higher, and our goal is to salute 26 July by overshooting it by 9 percent," he noted.

Our conversation took place at UNECA's main office in Angola, located in a downtown building on Las Misiones Avenue in Luanda.

"Our laborers and workers want to continue being the best overseas affiliate and therefore propose to meet the year's target as a salute to Construction Workers Day," the director underscored.

Chiming in at this point was Hugo Montelier Salabarría, who was elected secretary general of the union of Cuban construction workers in Angola at a stock-taking assembly last 19 May.

"The assembly resolved unanimously to undertake a special inter-project emulation to spur completion of the technical-economic program and reaffirmed the decision to fulfill the yearly program before 5 December in spite of the delays caused by the rains between February and April."

In this regard, I told them how astonished I was to see how much damage the downpours had caused in the Angolan capital: streets and roads torn apart, others partly buried under sandy soil, entire neighborhoods still flooded...

"According to the country's records, it had not rained for more than 20 years in Luanda, and the bad weather seriously hurt output and the living conditions of the workers and of the residents of the capital," Orta emphasized.

The Front Line

The Cubans responded immediately to this adversity by helping the Angolan populace, together with residents from the Soviet Union and from other countries that are friends of Angola.

"We construction workers were in the front line," Montelier explains, "because not only did we unanimously donate 1 month's pay to help offset the damage and meet the people's needs, but we also put in long days of volunteer work digging drainage ditches and doing emergency road repairs."

The soil in Luanda is sandy and soft but, at the same time, far from permeable.

The torrents unleashed by the extraordinarily heavy rains washed away incredible amounts of soil, laid mountains bare, exposed the roots of large trees to the extent of toppling them, swept away makeshift housing in the so-called "museques" (shantytowns) and caused flooding that lasted until late June in some spots.

UNECA's projects were hard hit as well, and the construction workers there set about undoing the damage with the same drive with which they tackled the damage that the city and the people in general had suffered.

"The rains have delayed us a lot, but we're getting rid of what water is left so that the project can move ahead as much as possible," Candido Isaac Rivero, a worker veteran of five internationalist missions (two of them in Angola), told us in Viana.

"You can rest assured that in spite of the rains we will meet our commitment to hand over this facility by this 5 December," emphasized Rafael Bonal Jay, the head of the group that is building a Giron prefabs plant on the outskirts of Luanda.

We found comparable determination at the port and the other projects we visited in the country's capital and in several interior provinces.

The men in the white hard hats in Angola beam with emulative enthusiasm and share the firm conviction that the UNECA affiliate here will once again gain the honor of hosting the union's keynote ceremony commemorating Construction Workers Day.

BOOK ON AFGHANISTAN PRAISED

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 1 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Luis Sexto: "Journalism That Uncovers Faces"]

[Text] Hugo Rius is a journalist who takes advantage of his circumstances. A roving correspondent who has been in several spots in which contemporary history has written its most exciting chapters, he has not limited himself to the necessarily brief, deadline-conditioned articles that newspapers and magazines ask of him, and after letting his experiences settle he has given his assignments a longer-lasting scope in book form.

He has written, for example, "Angola: Chronicles of Hope" and the recently published "A Face Uncovered, Reports from Afghanistan." In the future, it occurs to me, we might see another volume recounting his experiences on his recent visit to Poland.

These works, written, of course, with his characteristic depth, place Rius among the ranks of the restless, creative journalists who are not content to merely report on current events, as are the professionals who die with their daily or weekly writings. He is among those who, swept away by the enthusiasm of personal judgments and opinions, endeavor to make their work last and to serve as chroniclers of their time (as Carpentier puts it) or interpreters of events and guides for their readers, rather than notaries, to use Miguel Angel de la Torre's apt description.

In undertaking the ambitious task of writing a book, however, Rius does not cease to be what he is in essence and conscience: a journalist. Thus, in his works we can see thought-provoking syntheses, revealing anecdotes, the conclusive testimony of a major figure, carefully chosen words and a pleasing style, hallmarks all of writing that incorporates the basic facts into a universe with many levels and cultural and philosophical interests.

His timing is also good. A journalist must be able to gauge when his articles and feature reports are or are not timely. Journalistic writing should never be uncalled-for or useless. With "A Face Uncovered,"

the news editor of the magazine BOHEMIA has filled a collective need. There has been much scattered talk in Cuba about Afghanistan since 27 April 1978, and we needed an organized body of knowledge to fuel our feelings of solidarity with the revolution of Taraki and Karmal.

The past and present of Afghanistan is right there, behind the book's attractive green, red and white cover bearing the seal of the Social Sciences Publishing House. It reads quickly and informs us, without burdening us with minutiae, about the background to the revolution that toppled the tyrant Daud, the explosive course of events in April, the deviations of Hafizullah Amin, the terrorism of the CIA, the rehabilitating uprising of 1979, the ties with the Soviet Union and its origins in the October Revolution...

In short, the Cuban journalist has delved deep to uncover a face and while broadening our activist understanding, he has dealt a blow to and unmasked imperialist propaganda.

8743

CSO: 3248/754

CUBA

TWO FORMER GUERRILLA FIGHTERS DIE AFTER ILLNESS

Ernesto Tizol Aguilera

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 2 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Comrade Ernesto Tizol Aguilera, who fought at the Moncada Barracks and was sentenced to 13 years in prison at the trial of the heroic assault troops, has died in this capital as a result of an unfortunate illness.

Tizol was born in Fray Benito, Holguin, the former Oriente Province, on 26 June 1926. He was one of the first youths to join the vanguard of the Centennial Generation. Fidel entrusted him with the mission of renting what was to become the Siboney poultry farm that served as the clandestine training camp for the men who were to assault the country's second largest military stronghold on 26 July 1953, the year that marked the 100th anniversary of Jose Marti's birth.

He and Abel Santamaria set up the "poultry business" at the small summer home that has gone down in history as the Little Siboney Farm.

After his release from political prison on the Isle of Pines, along with Fidel and his other comrades, Ernesto Tizol founded the 26 July Movement, lived in exile and, when the revolution was victorious, took on the tasks that were assigned to him in Cuba, the most recent ones being in the Foreign Relations Ministry and the National Institute of Tourism, until the illness that had been sapping his strength prevented him from working any longer.

Tizol was a member of our Communist Party and had received major awards from the Council of State, including the 20th Anniversary Commemorative Medal, the Clandestine Combatants Medal and others.

Comrade Ernesto Tizol will be buried today at 3:25 in the afternoon; the cortege will leave from the Calzada y K funeral home in El Vedado and proceed to Colon Cemetery.

Santiago Riera Hernandez

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 9 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Comrade Santiago Riera Hernandez, a revolutionary combatant, has died after a sudden illness. At the time of his death he was the director of the Sub-Saharan Africa Area of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

Santiago Riera, who was 58, was a member of the Orthodoxy and after the attack on the Moncada Barracks he became a charter member of the 26 July Movement, serving as an executive officer in the province of Las Villas. He was tortured and imprisoned for his revolutionary activities, later going into exile.

He held several posts after the triumph of the revolution, eventually working in the Industry Ministry with Commander Ernesto "Che" Guevara. He later filled various positions in the Revolutionary Armed Forces and in the Domestic Trade Ministry. He was also minister president of the State Committee for Prices.

In recognition of his revolutionary record he was awarded the 20th Anniversary of the Moncada Medal, the 20th Anniversary of the FAR Medal and the Clandestine Combatant Medal. At the time of his death he was a member of the Cuban Communist Party.

His body is lying in state at the Calzada y K funeral home, and the interment will take place today at 4:25 in the afternoon at the Colon Cemetery.

8743

CSO: 3248/753

RECENT PERFORMANCE OF NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK DETAILED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 28, 13 Jul 84 pp 28-31

[Interview with Oscar E. Alcalde, president of the People's Savings Bank, by Raul Lazo; date and place not given]

[Text] A year after the BPA [People's Savings Bank] was officially established, we take the opportunity to interview its president, Oscar E. Alcalde, in order to learn about the development of this dynamic bank.

[Question] Different factors meant that, during the last two decades, savings played a very weak role in giving incentives to the development of the socialist economy and stabilizing the money in circulation. How has the savings policy evolved in Cuba?

[Answer] We can briefly summarize some of those negative factors. There were few banks devoted exclusively to service to the people. By eliminating interest payments on the balances in savings accounts in 1968, savers were discouraged. The people were unaware of the security and free access to the deposits in savings accounts and the guaranteed secrecy of these operations. Also the BNC [National Bank of Cuba] had to give preferential attention to the important tasks that the Economic Management and Planning System assigned to it.

All this reflected negatively on the balances in the savings accounts. They remained almost the same between 1974 and 1980. In fact, in 1980 they even went down more than 4 percent compared to the preceding year.

However, in the last 3 years there has been notable growth: about 20 percent in 1981, more than 46 percent in 1982 and 54.2 percent in September 1983. In other words, it has grown progressively from one year to the next....

[Question] In your opinion, what has caused this rapid growth in the balances in savings accounts?

[Answer] Naturally this has not been the result of chance. It is due to the evolution of awareness about the savings policy in our country by the socialist state and the existence of objective conditions that have been created in the last 3 years. This is all tied to the creation of the BPA or, rather, shaped in it.

The approximately 118,000 visits made until the end of the first quarter of this year by the personnel of the Population and Savings Bank Agencies played a prominent role in this evolution. They visited work centers, cooperatives, peasant bases, mass organizations and other places. Also the Mobile Savings Bank was established for opening savings accounts and receiving deposits for already opened accounts during these visits. The hours of service to the people expanded from 5 hours a day to 12.5 uninterrupted hours in the provincial capitals as well as in all the Population and Savings Bank Agencies in Havana City, in the special municipality of Isle of Youth, Artemisa and Manzanillo. They are open 7 hours a day in the rest of the municipalities in the country. A publicity campaign was developed inspired on the principle: "Saving is investing in security and happiness for you and yours." Attention and service to the public improved and the "Savings Promoters" movement was created.

What the workers, technicians, state leaders and working peasants save is not very significant. What does attract attention is that regular savers include housewives and minors who do not receive income and pensioners and students with stipends who have low income.

The success in the attraction of the people's income to savings accounts--2.25 percent in 1982--is due to no small degree to the maintenance of three basic principles aimed at gaining the people's confidence: the security of keeping the money in the bank facing the danger of loss, theft, etc.; the free access to the money deposited in savings accounts protected under Article 22 of the Constitution of the Republic which guarantees personal ownership of income and savings from one's own labor; and absolute secrecy of the workers and officials of the Population and Savings Bank Agencies concerning the accounts and operations of their customers.

[Question] It is true that mobilization of personal savings is necessary due to the abrupt growth of the monetary income of the people since the beginning of the present 5-year period. They can no longer be compensated through the increased supply of goods and services alone. We would like to know how those increases are quantified and who saves in our country.

[Answer] The increased income of the people in the 5-year period 1981-85 reaches 4.17 billion pesos. That growth reaches 2,709,000,000 pesos from the Wage Reform alone which raised the minimum wage 14 percent. It increased 215 million because of the new Social Security Law and the creation of the Reward Fund in the enterprises and the payment of bonuses to the workers total 620 million. The increased collection and preprocessing prices for the peasants mean an increase of 550 million pesos per year in their personal income.

As to the second part of your question, I feel that it would be better to refer the readers to Chart 1 which reflects this situation. We have a national average of 150 savings accounts for every 1,000 inhabitants. This is very low compared to other Latin American countries and other parts of the world. The balances of those savings accounts can be seen in Chart 2.

[Question] In Chart 1 there seems to us to be a low number of accounts and initial deposits from "working peasants." What measures will the BPA take to

Chart 1

<u>Sector</u>	<u>No. of Accounts</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Initial Deposit</u>
State workers	54.2		38.3
Technicians and state leaders	15.6		14.2
Housewives	11.5		15.2
Minors	4.4		2.5
Pensioners	4.0		11.6
Students with stipends	7.0		2.3
Working peasants	3.0		11.3
Others	<u>4.3</u>		<u>4.6</u>
	100.0		100.0

Chart 2
Structure of Levels of Balance

<u>Level</u>	<u>No. of Accounts</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Up to 200 pesos	72.8		5.3
From 200 to 2,000	18.5		27.7
From 2,000 to 5,000	5.4		24.7
More than 5,000	<u>3.3</u>		<u>42.3</u>
	100.0		100.0

try to increase channeling part of the peasants' income toward savings? In your opinion, what causes this low level? According to occupational category, where is it possible to greatly increase savings?

[Answer] Before answering these questions, we must reflect on a stage of life of the Cuban peasantry which rooted traditions in them that are not easy to change. Let us not forget the system of exploitation to which the man who worked in the field was subjected. Also he lived isolated, far from towns and cities. This created the habit of keeping the money he received under the mattress or in a jug buried some place. Although the revolution and especially the Agrarian Reform Law changed that gloomy scene, there are still many peasants and small farmers living in isolation and following the traditional forms of keeping money. I must note that they have often lost money which has been eaten by rats, damaged by moisture or washed away by floods.

The first thing the BPA is doing to attract part of the significant income that the small farmers receive today is giving them confidence about keeping their money in the bank, whatever quantity they have, and the security that they can withdraw all or part of it when they need it. Secondly, the network of Population and Savings Bank Agencies was expanded considerably. This has

facilitated providing bank service in all corners of the country...and it will be expanded even more. The Mobile Savings Bank is present when the farmers are paid which makes it possible for them to put part of that money in their savings accounts. Third, the banking service provided to the people has improved.

We are negotiating with ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers] so that it will support us and help promote monetary savings among its members.

In answer to your last question, I can say that it is possible to greatly increase savings in all occupational categories. It all depends on the work we do and the quality of service. The participation of all the workers of the BPA is necessary to achieve that. We are sure they will participate.

After the implementation of the Savings Plan for Formation of Funds, an award that we will call "Savings Promoter Work Center" will be created. This will be a certificate presented to those work centers that meet the indices established. We trust that this initiative will create great enthusiasm among the workers so that their work center displays that award. They only have to do two things: have a savings account and add to it regularly.

[Question] On 1 August 1983 the people who had regular savings accounts were authorized to use their bankbooks to make deposits and withdrawals in any BPA office in the country, not just the one where the account was opened. This has been very favorably received by the people. We would like to know what other modalities, like the call for Formation of Funds, will be put into practice in the immediate future to give incentive to savings.

[Answer] Authorization to make deposits and withdrawals in any BPA office in the country has been tremendously received by the people. When we began the system in August 1983, there were 22,686 operations that month. It has grown month by month; in March 1984 there were 56,559 operations.

We have already completed the necessary procedures for those citizens who want to join the Savings Plan for Formation of Funds through a wage deduction. We hope to put it into practice once the necessary forms are printed. This is under the Program of Measures to Insure the 1984 Socioeconomic Objectives and there is a commitment to implement it. We are sure that this plan will be well received by the workers because of the facilities it offers for savings.

It takes time to put a savings plan into practice, time for its elaboration and more time for its introduction. It requires good publicity and a positive reaction from the people. Therefore, we have the principle of not starting anything new until the success of the previous plan is insured.

[Question] When you speak of the BPA, it is sometimes thought erroneously that it only relates to savings accounts. However, there is another rich field of activities like personal credits that fulfill a very important and necessary social function. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] By Law No 1274 of June 1974, the exclusive concession of credits to the people was transferred to the BNC (today the BPA). Law No 1273 of the

same date establishes that the monthly amortization payment of those credits will be through an automatic wage deduction. The work centers will make the deduction and are then obliged to transfer that to the bank.

The efficiency and considerable volume of those credits can be seen in Chart 3. To illustrate the collection of those personal credits, we can state that from 1975 until the end of last year, the bank granted 1,832,000,000 credits. It only has to locate or already has in court 5,992 debtors--that is, .33 percent of the total.

Chart 3
Credits Granted

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Televisions	121,642	107,384	151,202
Refrigerators	87,009	56,904	58,356
Air conditioning	3,223	2,034	6,889
Furniture	6,244	6,944	7,307
Articles for personal use	9,008	12,016	11,866
Automobiles	3,263	6,108	4,644
Motorcycles	9,058	10,934	12,939
House repairs	10,867	10,331	10,752
Social tourism and exports	1,834	2,709	3,997

[Question] In relation to personal credits, are you planning to introduce new systems that expand the variety of the already existing ones?

[Answer] As can be seen in Chart 3, the list of articles and services that are bought on credit is very extensive. Without question, this has contributed to the notable improvement of the standard of living of the people. At the end of last year, there were 695,000 pending loans totaling 249.1 million pesos. We do not have new credit proposals planned at this time.

[Question] How are payments and collections for third party accounts handled?

[Answer] Without question, relations with Social Security play an essential role. As of July 1982, there were 687,523 Social Security beneficiaries in the country who collected their money at 5,754 payment centers. The average monthly amount totaled 70 million pesos. To give a general idea of the magnitude of these operations, we can tell you that there are 700,000 transactions per year for reception, reconciliation, renewal and distribution of checks to the pensioners alone.

An important part of the third party accounts is collections. The specialization derived from the creation of the BPA has made it possible to expand bank services that are provided to the people. This translates into many social facilities that benefit the customers. It is already possible to pay for rent, electricity, gas, daycare, etc., in our agencies. Expansion of the hours of

service permits the people to make these payments at very convenient times. It does not interfere with their work or personal obligations.

There are also foreign currency transactions such as exchange, payment of travelers checks, drafts and letters of credit, transfer payment for fares, family aid, etc. With prior agreement from the BNC, it also offers bank service to organisms and enterprises as an exception.

[Question] We would like to go back to collections for third party accounts. As you stated, this offers a great benefit to the people since it is translated into savings as important as money: time. What new systems or modalities are planned for the immediate future?

[Answer] Ever since we began the policy to stimulate savings, the collection of third party accounts and expansion of the hours of service, the number of transactions carried out directly at the windows of the Population and Savings Bank Agencies has grown enormously. These more or less represent the number of customers who come to those offices. In April 1982 there were 588,335. Already in March 1984 this increased to 1,263,776. In other words, in 2 years the number of transactions has more than doubled. That represents a great effort if we keep in mind that the work in our offices is all manual. We do not have mechanized equipment.

We are careful about the quality of service. With the means we have, we cannot progress much more since, otherwise, we will reach a critical point when service would begin to deteriorate.

We are not satisfied with that situation. We are taking the first steps to eventually implement a mechanized computation system that would accelerate the transaction of operations and permit us to save our clients more time.

[Question] We have the impression that a host of responsibilities has been placed on the shoulders of the BPA. It is necessary to implement intelligent and extensive organizational work to confront them. How are you preparing to confront those extensive and varied tasks?

[Answer] Until the middle of last year, the BPA had 4,606 workers, 77 percent of them women. About 51 percent of this personnel is less than 29 years old and 33 percent is between 30 and 44 years of age. As to level of education, 44 percent has secondary education up to ninth grade. The same percentage has intermediate education up to 12th grade. About 2 percent has higher education.

The increase of BPA activities has required the incorporation of new young personnel without experience in this type of work and occasionally without any prior labor tie. All of this demands intensive and accelerated training. Different training courses have already been implemented. This will be translated into the increased efficiency of our personnel. International aid has been received. For example, through a collaboration program with the Swedish Association of Savings Banks, 5,000 training manuals were printed and a classroom was equipped in each province. The implementation of a basic training course for all workers of the BPA System has particular importance for the

training of our personnel. Already more than 95 percent of the leaders, technical and administrative personnel has taken it. It leads to better work productivity in general.

[Question] Would you like to add anything?

[Answer] It seems to me that we have already said a lot and we don't want to tire the readers. I only want to add that we feel satisfied with the development of the awareness of our workers to provide efficient service to the people. That permits us to assimilate any other task that the government or the party feels it should assign to us.

7717

CSO: 3248/741

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO ALBANIA--The Council of State has named Comrade Carlos Alonso Moreno the special and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. At the time of his appointment, Comrade Alonso Moreno was Cuba's ambassador to the Republic of Finland. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 7 Jul 84 p 1] 8743

NEW AMBASSADOR TO HUNGARY--The Council of State has named Comrade Euclides Vazquez Candela the special and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in the Hungarian People's Republic. At the time of his appointment, Comrade Vazquez Candela held the post of section chief in the Economic Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 5 Jul 84 p 1] 8743

NEW AMBASSADOR TO GUINEA-BISSAU--The Council of State has named Comrade Julio A. Carranza Valdes the special and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. At the time of his appointment, Comrade Carranza Valdes was serving as an adviser to the minister of construction. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 6 Jul 84 p 1] 8743

CSO: 3248/753

PNP LEADER CALLS FOR END TO POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 13 Aug 84 p 3

[Text]

MMR. CARL RATTRAY, Chairman of the P.N.P. People's Forum, called for an end to political violence at the Forum held in Mandeville last Tuesday. Mr. Rattray said that political violence is part of the unhappy legacy of slavery which must be overcome, because "we cannot survive as a nation if we seek to despoil one another."

He mentioned recent incidents in Portland, Trelawny and St. Andrew in which P.N.P. meetings were disrupted or constituency offices burned down. Mr. Rattray felt there should have been "at least some expression of regret" from Government, and said that "no elections can be free and fair if they are not free from fear."

Mr. Rattray warned of the dangers of authoritarianism and called upon the people to resist it. He referred to the Government's ban on a P.N.P. march planned in May shortly after the disturbances in Rema, and said that the suppression of peaceful protest is "a sure recipe for violent protest." He added: "There is more than sufficient in this country now in terms of human suffering imposed by Governmental policies to demand protest."

At the same meeting, Mr. Ralph Brown, spokesman of Local Government, presented an overview of the history of Local Government in Jamaica, highlighted the former P.N.P. Government's attempts to strengthen it, and charged the present J.L.P. Government with attempting to destroy it, as

part of "a deliberate and sinister plan" to destroy "all institutions, organisations or groups which cannot be easily controlled by Prime Minister Edward Seaga."

The \$500,000 allotted to each M.P. by the Prime Minister "is not any new money, but money which is being taken away from Local Government," Mr. Brown stated, "and the worst part of it is that the M.P.s have been instructed not to consult with the Councillors or any local leaders".

Mr. Brown admitted that under the P.N.P. there were many problems with regard to the effectiveness and efficiency of Parish Councils, but the P.N.P. Government's policy was to promote Local Government reform, "with the specific objective of making Local Government authorities more capable and giving them greater autonomy."

He cited as positive achievements the design of the Rural Markets Development Project, the upgrading of street lighting in Kingston and rural towns, and the introduction of the Traffic Warden Service, as well as various administrative reforms.

For the future, Mr. Brown announced P.N.P. plans to accord formal Constitutional recognition to Local Government, programmes for training of Councillors and staff, allocation of autonomous revenue resources to the Councils, and both greater citizen involvement in Local Government and better relations between Local and National Government.

P.N.P. President Mr. Michael Manley spoke briefly about industrial relations, referring once again to the peremptory nature of the cutbacks in Civil Service employment, and to the recent public utilities strike. He made the point that "How a government treats its workers has a profound influence on how all employers view their workers."

While skirting the issues involved in the recent strike action, Mr. Manley said that "the whole of industrial relations with the Public Service Company are in a sorry state of neglect and abuse." He called for a "full-scale public inquiry" into the industrial relations problems of the Jamaica Public Service Company.

CHANGES IN ELECTORAL PROCESS AIDING PNP CONSIDERED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 15 Aug 84 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt]

The Government is to bring to the House of Representatives shortly proposals for amending the Representation of the People Act as it concerns violence affecting the electoral process.

This was disclosed by the Minister of Construction, the Hon. Bruce Golding, who also has responsibility for electoral matters, as he spoke yesterday in the debate on an amendment to the Act to allow the People's National Party to select scrutineers for the completion of the enumeration exercise.

Mr. Golding said that he intended to bring to the House "very shortly" proposals for the further amendment to the Act, to increase the penalties that existed to deal with offences of a violent nature.

He said that the penalties that now existed were "ridiculously low," and that he was currently in consultations with the Minister of Local Government as to how the coming Local Government Elections could be assisted by such an amendment.

Mr. Golding's disclosure was in direct response to a point raised by the Member of Parliament for Southern St. Andrew, Mr. Earl Spencer, concerning the security of JLP scrutineers who worked in the Arnett Gardens or "Concrete Jungle" area of his constituency, during the debate on the Bill which was unanimously passed by the one-party House.

The Memorandum of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, which was piloted by Mr. Golding, said that under the present provisions of the Act, scrutineers were to be appointed by each political party that has five or more members in the House of

Representatives.

"Since the current House of Representatives consists entirely of members of one political party, those provisions would exclude any other political party from participating in the enumeration process. Such a situation would be inconsistent with the principles which have formed the process of electoral reform," Mr. Golding said.

The Bill seeks to amend the Representation of the People Act to enable participation in the enumeration process by any other political party which had five or more members in the House of Representatives immediately prior to the last dissolution of Parliament.

Mr. Golding said that the amendment was of immediate importance as the next step of the electoral process was the issuing of the identification cards, which was expected to commence within the next two weeks.

He told the *Gleaner* after the meeting that the revision of the Parish Council boundaries was now being worked out by the Electoral Committee.

Mr. Golding said that as the law now stood, the PNP had no right to participate in the enumeration process and had no more say than any other party in the process.

He said that the amendment was not meant to excuse the frivolity of the PNP in not contesting the last General Elections, but from a legal or constitutional point of view, sought to extend the privileges afforded by the law to organizations which could not be differentiated from a wider group.

He said that it must be recognised that the PNP was an alternative

political force that on two previous occasions formed the Government of the country and had a significant level of popular support.

"At the same time we recognise that the PNP has now put themselves in a category where it is not possible to define their role in precise terms, differently from any of the others like the Jamaica United Front or the Christian Democratic Party. Some of these parties have been knocking around for a long time.

"On top of that, there is no legal procedure by which political parties are registered. I am not advocating that there should be, I am merely alluding to the fact that there is none; it is not like trade unions that are required to be registered," Mr. Golding said.

He said that what had made the amendment urgent was the fact that it was proposed to start the distribution of identification cards within a matter of two weeks, and the cards were going to be distributed by persons appointed by the Electoral Committee who would be accompanied by scrutineers — one appointed by the JLP, as they are entitled under the law, and the other by the PNP, under the amendment.

PNP CALLS ON MINISTERS ABRAHAMS, GILMOUR TO RESIGN

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 13 Aug 84 p 3

[Excerpt]

The People's National Party has called for the resignation of two Cabinet Ministers: the Hon. Anthony Abrahams, Minister of Tourism, and the Hon. Dr. Mavis Gilmour, Minister of Education.

Mr. Frank Pringle, P.N.P. spokesman on Tourism, speaking at the party's People's Forum held in Mandeville last Tuesday, demanded that Mr. Abrahams "should resign or alternatively be fired from his portfolio."

Mr. Pringle cited Mr. Abrahams' recent request that an Army camp be established in the Wareika Hills area, and his presence in Grenada during the U.S.-led intervention last year, as factors which endanger Tourism in Jamaica when reported abroad, because potential visitors would associate Jamaica with violence.

Mr. Pringle further charged Mr. Abrahams with "rash and intemperate" statements "in and out of Parliament" which are unbecoming to a businessman and

Minister of Government. He alluded to Mr. Abrahams' dismissal board of the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation as "a fit of folly", and the recent Martin's controversy, particularly Mr. Abrahams' confrontation with Mr. Wilmor Perkins, as "a disgrace to his office and the country".

Mr. Carlyle Dunkley, P.N.P. spokesman on Education, called for Dr. Gilmour's resignation, claiming that the Minister of Education was "acting in a manner calculated to destroy the morale and professional worth of teachers as well as hard-working students". He cited her "complicity in seeking to alter the character of the Jose Mari School", and her dissolution of the Jamaica School of Agriculture at Twickenham Park as examples of misguided policy.

Mr. Dunkley also charged that Dr. Gilmour "has failed to protect the integrity of the funds of the Education Tax", which are now being diverted into general Government funds.

SEAGA INTERVIEWED ON RETURN FROM TALKS IN PARIS

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 29 Jul 84 pp 14, 31

[Interview with Prime Minister Edward Seaga by Balford Henry on 20 July at Norman Manley International Airport]

[Text] **T**HE Jamaican economy is through the worst part of the period, according to Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

Mr. Seaga, looking tired but relaxed was talking, between sips of iced champagne shared with his Cabinet colleagues, with me in the VIP Lounge of the Norman Manley International Airport on Friday night July 20, as they celebrated his success at the re-scheduling talks with the Paris Club.

The Prime Minister had landed at about 8 p.m. in a private plane and was met on the tarmac by his wife and Cabinet colleagues, before they all marched up to the lounge for drinks and discussions.

He was asked whether he thought that with the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the success with the Paris Club, as well as domestic economic successes, the country was through the worst part:

"Yes, most definitely. You must remember that from last year October until the present, we had no agreement with the IMF, we had no resources from the IMF, as a result we had no resources from the World Bank in their structural adjustment loan, and we had no resources from AID in the ESF programme; all of which are for our Balance of Payments.

"So we existed from last year October until now without any financial inputs from these three main organizations which provide very substantial at we are well on our way to completing the rescheduling programme, we have certainly passed the worst of

the period."

However, he was at pains to point out that while this may be the total case as far as the economy was concerned, the same could not be said for domestic householders:

National economy vs household economy

"Now I must differentiate between the national economy and the individual household economy. The national economy most definitely is showing the results that we expect in being restricted and strengthened. The individual household economy will not show that result at this stage because price increases are just working themselves into the system and therefore into the pockets of the individual householders.

"Programmes that are eventually going to involve some reduction in the staffing of the Government services are yet to come in large measure, and therefore the impact of that is still yet to be felt. So that in terms of the individual households, people will obviously be feeling the impact of the prices and the lay-offs in Government services for some time. On the other hand one must bear in mind that there are different people in different circumstances. What is true of the people who may be laid-off in Government services, is not true of the people who are employed (for example) in tourism who are enjoying boom conditions, is not true of the people who may be employed in industrialization programmes."

U.S. Presidential elections

Does he feel that his economic programme is in any way threatened by the possibility of a victory by the U.S. Democratic Party's Mondale/Ferraro in the November Presidential elections:

"Well, we certainly wouldn't comment on anything like that at all. What I would say is that, we have good relationships with Washington and we

have extremely good relations on both sides of the political fence. And Jamaica... in fact it came out very strongly at the Paris Club where the chairman of the meeting who is the number two man in the French Finance Ministry referred to Jamaica as the pet of the international community.

"It meant that we are a most favoured country in the international banking community, because of the goodwill we have built up and because Jamaica is perceived as making the necessary sacrifices in restructuring the economy to encourage the creditors to feel that, by the sacrifices we are making, we will pull ourselves out of our problems and therefore they will extend themselves to help us. On the basis of that you will understand that it is countries that we have goodwill with, not necessarily Parties.

Strong relationship

"There can be no doubt whatsoever, however, that we do have a very strong relationship with the present administration in Washington. Indeed, I was just recounting that this was the fifth time that I have met with the President in his term of office and my term of office; and on that basis, we cannot but say that we have perhaps the strongest relationship with the present U.S. administration that any Jamaican government has ever had with any government in the United States.

"But that does not mean that because we have a strong relationship with the present administration, that the party that is in opposition to that administration would be in opposition to us; because they see Jamaica as an example of a Third World country that is endeavouring to pull itself out of its problems, by making the necessary sacrifices to restructure its economy so as to enable it to have a stronger economy which can generate the resources to solve its problems.

More oppressive

"It is felt that if Jamaica succeeds in doing that, we will be the first Third World country to do so. And that is very important, because when Third World countries get into problems, one of the policy directions taken is to become more central in their planning, to take more and more powers under the wings of Government, to become more oppressive in personal and civil liberties and to move very sharply to the left.

"In all such instances, virtually (there) have been deeper problems rather than solutions, whereas, in our case, we are moving in the opposite direction, freeing up the economy, deregulating, divesting and restructuring the economy. If that works we will be pointing in a totally new direction for countries of our type to come out of problems. This is what is perceived in Washington as worthy of encouragement by both parties (Democrats and Republicans)."

Refinancing debts

Returning to the island's foreign exchange problems and his plans to deal with them, Mr. Seaga said having completed the initial discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the

Paris Club, the next step would be discussions on refinancing debts owed to the commercial banks.

Explaining the recent rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club, he said that it meant that:

"Instead of making the payments (due) this year, what we have said to them is that we would like to create a new loan on the payments that have to be made this year. And, the terms and conditions of the new loan are favourable in the sense that they are for a fairly long period of time with a period of grace.

"Now what we have to programme or reschedule debts that are owed this year amounts to \$488 million. Some are owed to the Paris Club and the balance to countries outside. But under the terms of the agreement with the Paris Club group, we must not make any arrangements with countries that are not in the Paris Club, that are more favourable than the arrangements made with the Paris Club.

Interest rates

"So once we have settled with the Paris Club... it is expected that in dealing with the other countries that are not members of that group the same sort of terms will prevail. Hence, what we have done is to conclude the refinancing arrangement in respect of current debt that is due — debt due for payment between the first of January, 1984 and the 31st of March, 1985, as well as arrears that have accumulated and these total \$135 million in respect of that group.

"The difference between that \$135 million and the \$488 million represents debt due and owing, some current, some arrears, to six countries — Mexico, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Iraq, Algeria and Libya. We have already dealt with the Trinidad and Tobago aspect, because they attended the Paris Club meeting and they agreed to the terms that were offered."

He said that the Governor of the Bank of Jamaica, Mr. Horace Barber, has already held discussions with Mexico, and he left Paris for Venezuela for discussions there. After that, similar discussions will have to be held with Iraq, Libya and Algeria.

"We have completed the basic terms, there is still a round of discussions to be carried out insofar as the more detailed terms are concerned — interest rates and so on.

Local borrowing

"This has to be done with each country individually. So what we have already in fact done is to set the basic terms to be negotiated over the next several months. But in setting the basic terms, we have had the important element settled, that is an agreement that the debt will be rescheduled.

"In the Paris Club arrangement what has been agreed is that the debt to be rescheduled in respect of amounts due and owing, the payments from January 1, 1984 to March 1, 1985, will receive a nine-year period of repayment, of which the first four years are a grace period.

"Insofar as the arrears are concerned, there is a six-year period in which one year is grace and

the other five is repayment."

He said that insofar as the debt owed to the international banks are concerned, the terms were virtually agreed and what was being awaited was the IMF agreement. Now that the agreement was in place, the finalization of the arrangements with them will take place, but those negotiations will be for a refinancing arrangement rather than rescheduling.

He said that within the next couple of weeks or so, he would be announcing the refinancing arrangements with the commercial banks.

The country will be left, therefore, with obligations that were due in respect of local borrowing and that was now in the process of discussion.

"When, and if, that is completed, there will be a virtual complete rescheduling of all our debts."

Debt-ridden L.A. countries

Mr. Seaga discounted the claim that the rising interest rates in the United States had anything to do with the need to reschedule the debts:

"It is not a question of interest rates. Of course that makes it burdensome, but the amount of debt due which has accumulated over the years is the critical factor."

He said that Jamaica was not in the same situation as the debt-ridden Latin American countries, because 90% of their debts were on short-term, commercial rates of interest with the international banking system.

"We have over 80% of our debts with countries and with institutions like the World Bank and the IMF, which means that we are not subject in over 80% of our debts to fluctuations in interest rates. So we are not in that category."

Mr. Seaga was asked about arguments that he did not really have an IMF agreement, as the recently signed one was based on a number of factors, and he said:

"The IMF agreement is firm, fixed and final. On the IMF agreement though, rested the rescheduling with the commercial banks. The Paris Club has nothing to do with an IMF agreement."

MANLEY: NO EASY, ONE-PARTY ANSWER TO NATIONAL CRISIS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Aug 84 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE PRESIDENT OF the People's National Party, Mr. Michael Manley, in analysing Jamaica's political situation, has said that the country will have recurrence of economic "crisis after crisis" until Jamaicans realise that no one political party or policy can provide the answer to the nation's problems.

Addressing the monthly meeting of the Montego Bay Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Tuesday, Mr. Manley said that for the past twelve years both major political parties had pursued vigorously, different economic policies, yet Jamaica was currently still in an economic bind.

"I know I tried very hard, worked very hard and I have no doubt that Mr. Seaga tries very hard. So for twelve years there has been a leadership of this country that has obviously, sincerely tried, but in different ways; and at the end of that it is on common ground to say that the country is on very serious ground economically," Mr. Manley said.

But, he continued: "If there is one thing we have learnt in the

last twelve years, it is that there is no magic and no magical solutions to our problems".

One of the weaknesses of the society, he said, was a tendency on the part of a great many Jamaicans to hope that somewhere there was going to be a magic wand that will make our problems disappear.

Jamaica's problems, he said could be solved only with the realization that no single method could pull us out of our economic woes.

Jamaica, he said, would have to learn to struggle and to be efficient in many areas, as there was no single or exclusive priority that could produce the magic. But rather that we can put together a number of practical components in the way the economy works and the society works, that out of the sum total of a lot of things, that we can get forward movement and success".

"I think that Jamaica has the capacity to make a lot of things work, but we have a tendency to get excited by one alternative somebody

presents to us at a moment of time, and we get carried away with that, and fail to concentrate on many other things as though we don't have multiple concentration."

The Jamaica Labour Party's concentration on amassing a large amount of foreign exchange, was cited as an example of this adverse single-mindedness, as was the People's National Party's over-emphasis on agricultural self reliance, Mr. Manley said.

The national challenge, he said, was therefore to acquire the capacity to look at the question in terms of planning to help ourselves. Jamaica should be working to make every acre of land work and produce through our own initiatives.

"If we go from there, we should be simultaneously working to do everything we can to maximise our ability to feed ourselves while developing our export potentials and export markets," he said.

CSO: 3298/1070

LABOR TROUBLES RESOLVED BUT LEAVE RESIDUAL CONCERNS

'Misuse of Power' Charged

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Jul 84 p 1

[Page One Editorial]

[Text]

A minor dispute involving a small group of men has triggered a major crisis in the country. A cruel strike by supervisory personnel at the Jamaica Public Service Company plunged the country in darkness on Thursday night, and most of Thursday and much of yesterday, destroyed production, and endangered the health and welfare of all.

Especial sufferers were the thousands of poor and destitute, and those of all levels unable to afford stand-by generating plants.

And what is the dispute over? A question of whether supervisory personnel, who, unlike some of their colleagues, did not work during a recent strike by another union, should be paid. In other words, men who did not cross picket lines were demanding that they be paid nonetheless. Clearly if they did turn up to work, and were forcibly prevented from working, that would be a different question. But there has been no recourse to the usual grievance procedure. Instead it was decid-

ed to hold the country to ransom.

It is a cynical, contemptuous and cold-blooded cruelty. No dispute — especially such a minor one — can justify the incalculable harm done to our Tourism Industry, our manufacturers, and other industries, and most of all to the consumers in our society.

The country must have no truck with such a blatant example of naked misuse of trade union power!

They have now decided to hold the possibility of a further strike as a sword of Damocles over the heads of all in the country between now and Monday at 1.00 p.m. unless the company agrees with their latest request to be paid first and then have deductions, if it is proved that they were not forcibly prevented.

Thus is blackmail added to contempt.

It is surely time for the Government to have trained manpower ready to deal with such emergencies. For alas! The majority seem destined to be exposed to suffering from the irresponsibility of the few.

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] AGREEMENT to end the strike of electricity workers was reached last night after another day of load-shedding in which the crisis threatened to worsen before the late night break-through. The workers were scheduled to resume work immediately.

Supervisors and engineers of the Jamaican Public Service Company and management representatives of the company reached agreement at the Ministry of Public Utilities and Transport, New Kingston, for the appointment of an enquirer into their disputed claim for two days' pay, docked from their salaries after a strike by other workers in June.

UTASP, which represents the workers, and the JPSCo management, reached accord under the chairmanship of the Hon. Pearnel Charles, Minister of Public Utilities and Transport and Acting Minister of Labour, last night, for the appointment of Mr. Fitz Christie, former Director of Human Resource Development and Industrial Relations at the JPSCo, as the sole enquirer into the disputed claim.

The two days' pay which the workers are claiming and which was withdrawn from their last monthly salary by the company, for not reporting to work during a strike by the hourly-paid and clerical workers last June 19 and 20, is to be held in escrow until the enquirer has made a ruling.

The workers agreed to an immediate resumption, shortly after the agreement was reached at 8 o'clock last night. The enquirer is to make a ruling within 60 days and it is likely that he will start hearing the case at the Ministry of Labour on Friday.

Following the meeting, the parties held a press conference in the Ministry's conference room at which Mr. Charles thanked the parties for having arrived at an agreement which suited both sides.

Mr. Reg Ennis, General Secretary of UTASP, described the agreement as a "substantial compromise," which followed long and tedious negotiations and said that he hoped that this would not be the case when disputes arose in the future. Mr. Sam Smith, the current Human Resource Development and Industrial Relations Director, said while the settlement was not exactly as the company expected, he felt it was a good one.

The JPSCo workers had been on strike since Monday. They had earlier rejected a similar proposal from the company that they resume and allow a Board of Enquiry to hear their case. The workers claimed that they did not work on the two days because they were prevented from doing so by the hourly-paid and clerical pickets. The company has said that they could have worked if they wished.

The strike affected power services islandwide. Some of the engineers who were at work when it started kept the units going until they were replaced by

management staff who worked between 24 and 48 hours to keep the service going up to last night.

Power was reduced to 200 megawatts daily which was 40 megawatts below the company's daily output when the strike started Monday. The company carried out limited load-shedding up to Tuesday night to fill the gap. However, the situation worsened yesterday when some of the workers who were doing marathon overtime said that they could not continue any longer, reducing power output to 150 megawatts from 2 p.m. yesterday.

The situation threatened to worsen last night with the management staff indicating that they could not go beyond 10 p.m.

The JPSCo supervisors and engineers first went on strike last week Thursday, but resumed Friday when they gave the company an ultimatum to pay the two days wages by 1 p.m. Monday. When the money was not paid they went on strike again.

On Tuesday, the hourly-paid and clerical workers, who have a pay dispute with the management went out in support of their claims as well as in sympathy with the UTASP workers.

The Industrial Disputes Tribunal held a meeting yesterday on the hourly-paid and clerical issue, as the parties to their pay dispute should have reported back to the Tribunal yesterday on the pace of their negotiations. The dispute had been referred to the Tribunal last month after the hourly-paid workers at Old Harbour went on strike and blocked the gates. The Tribunal had given them two weeks from mid-July to seek a settlement at the Ministry of Labour and report back.

When the Tribunal met yesterday spokesmen for the unions representing these workers, the BITU and the NWU, Mr. Wesley Nelson and Mr. Trevor McNish, respectively, said that while they knew that the workers had held a meeting and voted to strike they were not informed that the strike would have commenced then.

The Tribunal agreed to a proposal from the unions for a postponement of the meeting to 9.30 this morning.

JPS Situation

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Text]

THE JAMAICA PUBLIC Service Company returned electricity supplies to all areas of the island by 5.30 p.m. yesterday as engineers and supervisors resumed work after their three-day strike, leaving only the hourly-paid and clerical staff off the job.

Despite several disturbances in the morning involving the presence of the security forces and the hourly-paid and clerical workers, by 5.30 p.m. all areas of the country had power by which time the company was generating some 220 megawatts, enough to meet the daily demand.

A JPSCo source said that it was hoped that the Number One Unit at Old Harbour with a 25-megawatt output, and the Number Three Unit with a 50-megawatt capacity, but which was not expected to produce more than 40 megawatts, would be brought into service by today making further load-shedding unnecessary.

At 4 p.m. yesterday only three areas of the country — Constant Spring in St. Andrew, a portion of Portmore in St. Catherine, and St. Elizabeth were without power, but they were lit by 5.30 p.m.

Full resumption by the engineers and supervisors which had been expected by 8 a.m. in the morning, was delayed by a dispute over the removal of security officers from the company's premises.

The company in a release yesterday stated that at the insistence of the UTASP workers, the security forces were removed in the morning from the various areas. However, the BITU/NWU represented hourly-paid and clerical workers immediately closed the gates of several of its locations, including Orange Street, Ruthven Road, May Pen, Montego Bay and Bogue, just outside the northcoast city, causing disruption of work.

The security forces had to be recalled to provide protection for employees and to safeguard the company's property at the affected locations, the release said.

Despite the resumption of the engineers and supervisors on the basis of the agreement reached under the chairmanship of the Minister of Public

Utilities and Transport, the Hon. Parnell Charles, Wednesday night, the company is still in the throes of industrial unrest sparked by the strike of the hourly-paid and clerical workers for increased pay.

The parties returned to the Industrial Disputes Tribunal yesterday to discuss the issue, but the Tribunal was unable to obtain any substantial guarantees for a resumption of work and negotiations on the pay claim.

The company's Industrial Relations Manager, Mr. Alty Mills, said that they would like the Tribunal to order a work resumption.

Mr. Trevor McNish of the NWU, the sole union officer present as the BITU did not attend the meeting, said that the Ministry had not carried out an undertaking to convene a meeting on Monday to continue conciliatory efforts toward resolving the pay dispute.

The Hon. J.A.G. Smith, the Minister of Labour, had set the date for the meeting prior to his leaving the island. The Acting Minister, the Hon. Parnell Charles, postponed the meeting to this morning at ten. Mr. Charles said that the postponement was made after consultations with all the parties.

The chairman of the Tribunal, Mr. K. K. Walters, said that while they were not opposed to issuing a back-to-work order, as an "act of good faith" they were suggesting that the union order a work resumption before the meeting.

Mr. McNish said that the unions would use their best endeavours to seek a work resumption.

Mr. Walters said that on that basis the company should attend the meeting and the union should recommend to the workers a resumption of work. The Tribunal asked the parties to report back to them at 10 a.m. on August 21.

However, last night in a press release, the JPSCo said that it would attend this morning's meeting provided the workers resumed at 8 a.m., "in keeping with the undertaking given by the unions that resumption would take place tomorrow (this) morning and in keeping with standard labour relations practice." The company said that if the workers failed to resume, the management would not attend.

A union spokesman told the *Gleaner* late yesterday that it was unlikely that there would be a resumption in time for the meeting, because the workers were scattered islandwide, and it was not possible to schedule a meeting in time for the Ministry's meeting.

Impact on Tourism

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] The JPSCo. strike took a heavy toll on the tourist industry reports reaching the Bureau said. In some cases visitors have begun to cut their stay short.

This has come about because of what one spokesman described as the frequent power outages which have been hitting the area since the the industrial dispute began.

The area mainly affected is the villa and apartment sector of the industry, as these facilities are without standby generators.

One villa operator told the Bureau, that guests at a number of villa and guest houses have expressed concern for their safety.

The situation was compounded by the fact that a number of these villas are located outside of Montego Bay and do not enjoy regular police patrol as hotels within the city itself.

He said despite assurances from the police high command in Montego Bay, that it would step up patrols, guests along with villa operators were extremely worried.

Meanwhile hoteliers have com- [as published] to spoilage. This is a recurring complaint not only among hoteliers in the northcoast areas and Negril but also among restaurants and supermarket operators in these areas.

According to one spokesman damage to equipment and appliances so far, run into thousands of dollars and might increase due to the heavy resurgences now being experienced with the return of power.

Workers throughout western Jamaica demonstrated outside the various district offices on Wednesday.

And a news release from the Montego Bay Chamber of Commerce and Industry has expressed the Chamber's deep concern.

The release pointed to the adverse effect strikes have on the tourist and manufacturing industries in Western Jamaica and called on the workers to end what it described as "the fickle regard to the countries economy."

The release continued: "If Jamaica is to grow and prosper, the laws of the country must be adhered to so that economic recovery is not stymied by the threat of further industrial [item ends, as published]."

ALPART Settlement

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] AFTER NINE WEEKS of hard bargaining, agreement was reached last night to settle the strike of production workers employed to Aluminum Partners of Jamaica (ALPART), and work will resume at the company's plant at Nain, St. Elizabeth, tomorrow morning.

Ending the protracted negotiations between the National Workers Union, representing the 700 workers involved, and the company, the 30-point claim for increased salaries and wages and improved working conditions was settled with the signing of a new 29-month contract, setting better terms for the workers.

Work will resume at the plant with the 8 0'clock shift.

Effective as from February 1, this year, the new contract established a top rate of \$12.54 per hour and a bottom rate of \$6.35 in the first 14-month period; and a top rate of \$14.04 per hour and a bottom rate of \$7.11 per hour for the second 15-month period.

Life insurance coverage for each worker has been increased to \$25,000. The savings plan is now \$12 per week per worker; and uniform allowance is \$250 per annum per worker.

Shift premium payment is to be 27 cents per hour for the 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. "swing" shift; and 54 cents per hour for the 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., or "graveyard" shift. Premium payment for Sunday work is 70 cents an hour.

Laundry allowance is 50 cents per hour, including 25 cents as salary-reducing allowance.

In addition, the company and the union agreed on a number of regrading and reclassification points; as well as an increase in "discomfort" pay at a rate of 4 cents per worker.

There will be a payment of one month's pay based on the rate of pay in force on January 1 this year.

Marking the end of the long-drawn-out negotiations which were conducted at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, Deputy Prime Minister, there was a short speech-making ceremony, following the signing of the agreement.

Mr. Shearer, who was congratulated by both the company and the union for the part he had played in bringing about a settlement of the dispute, said that the agreement provided the workers with benefits, and also gave benefits to the company, as well as to the country.

Mr. Shearer said the workers would benefit by better wages and better conditions of work. The company would benefit by getting a contract which would enable it to know what its labour costs would be for 29 months.

And the country would benefit by getting production resumed and having an agreement which would ensure continued production for the duration of the period and "the earning of vital foreign exchange in a vital industry."

The union and the company, in their response, paid tribute to Mr. Shearer for the "tact and assistance" he had provided during the negotiations.

The union gave the assurance that it would be putting the country's interest first. It endorsed the view expressed by Mr. Shearer that the country needed production and productivity, and gave an assurance of co-operation in this regard.

The company also gave an assurance that it would lend "the fullest co-operation possible" to ensure harmony at the work-place.

Mr. Lascelles Perry, Island Supervisor, led the union's 15-man team, assisted by Mr. Derrick Rochester. The company's seven-man team was led by Mr. S. Borrow, the company's industrial relations director.

Mr. Michael Manley, president of the N.W.U., took part in the negotiations.

Union Illegal Operations

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Aug 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Ivorall Davis]

[Text] THE UNION OF Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Personnel (UTASP), the union which was responsible for the strike of engineers and supervisors of the Jamaica Public Service Company on Thursday, July 26, causing a nation-wide blackout of electricity services, has defied the provisions of The Trade Union Act for the past 10 years, and is operating illegally according to the provisions of the Act.

On the other hand, the Jamaica Association of Local Government Officers (JALGO), which is operating as a full-fledged trade union and has been responsible for strikes which cause widespread disruptions in Local Government services over more than 25 years, is NOT A REGISTERED TRADE UNION under The Trade Union Act.

JUPOPE--The Jamaica Union of Public Officers and Public Employees, formed by the late Mr. Thosy Kelly and of which Mr. Claude O'Regan is current President --has called several strikes of Government workers, particularly prison warders, since it was registered on May 18, 1971 and given registration number 108. JUPOPE has not made a single return to the Deputy Keeper of the Records as required by the Trade Union Act, and continues to function as a bona fide trade union.

The Dockers and Marine Workers Union (DMWU) made returns up to March 31, 1975, while the Union of Clerical, Administrative and Supervisory Employees with headquarters at 132 East Street, Kingston, has not made a return since it was registered over 20 years ago.

The latest return to the Deputy Keeper of the Records (DKR) from the Trade Union Congress of Jamaica (TUC) was that for the year ended March 31, 1977, and was received by the DKR February 18, 1980.

Section 16 of the Trade Union Act provides that: "The treasurer of every trade union (or such officer as is designated in that behalf by the rules of the trade union), shall, on or before the first day of August in every year, cause to be received by the Registrar--

"(a) A statement, in the prescribed form, of the revenue and expenditure of the trade union during the preceeding twelve months preceeding the date of such statement

"(b) A statement, in the prescribed form, of the assets and liabilities of the trade union...

"(c) An audit certificate...

"(d) A list of the members of the trade union...etc."

The Act states in Section 16, subsection 4: "Every trade union which, and every officer of a trade union who, contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions or requirements...(of the Act under this Section) shall be guilty of an offence under the Act, and on conviction therefor, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty dollars for each such offence."

The Registrar, or the Deputy Keeper of the Records, has the power under the Act to take proceedings against the unions for ignoring the provisions of the Act, but there is no record in the file at the Registrar General's Office in Spanish Town, St. Catherine, that any union has ever been "taken to court" for contravening these provisions, and as a consequence the abuses continue.

Under the provisions of the Act, JALGO by purporting to be a registered trade union and causing its members to believe that it is a trade union, could be guilty of a misdemeanour for "misleading persons" under the provisions of Section 18 of the Act.

Section 18 states in part: "If any person...gives a copy of any rules to any person on the pretence that such rules are the rules of a trade union registered under this Act which is not so registered, every person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanour." These offences and penalties may be prosecuted and recovered in a summary manner before a Resident Magistrate

In recent times UTASP has been responsible for strikes at the JPSCo., the Blood Bank, the Met Office, among Nutrition Assistants attached to the Ministry of Health, Medical Technologists employed at the Government Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory at North Street, Kingston, the General Post Office (all essential services).

UTASP in March 1982, wrote to the Minister of Labour demanding an amendment to the Labour Relations and Industrial Disputes Act, to provide for the establishment of a body to handle appeals from the IDT etc.

JALGO has called out on strike firemen in Local Government services, Water Commission workers, general Parish Councils workers, market cleaners etc.

JUPOPE has disrupted the Prison Services and Special Constabulary service which have been its stranglehold.

The DMWU created havoc in the Jamaica Railway Corporation's services in 1979 and 1980.

The UPWU is also in arrears with its returns. The last forwarded to the Registrar was for the year ending March 31, 1979.

The Union of Journalists and Allied Workers' (UJAE) last return was for the year ended March 31, 1984.

The BITU and NWU have always been up to date with their returns.

The Registrar has power under Section 22 of the Act to cancel the registration of any trade union that "has wilfully and after notice from the Registrar, violated any of the provisions of this Act..." So far as can be ascertained no action has ever been taken against defaulting trade unions.

Agreement in ALCAN Talks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] The third and final collective agreement covering the alumina producing firms was signed between Alcan (the Aluminum Company of Canada) and the National Workers Union (NWU) under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, at his Ministry, New Kingston, on Wednesday.

With agreements already reached over a week ago between the NWU, which represents all hourly-paid workers in the bauxite/alumina industry, and the management of Alpart and Alcoa, Alcan became the third of the three alumina producing firms to settle, when an agreement was signed shortly after midday at Mr. Shearer's office in New Kingston.

All three contracts will last for 29 months and are effective from February 1, 1984. The Alcan agreement which covers some 700 employees is estimated to cost the company approximately \$30 million.

The only outstanding contract in the bauxite/alumina industry is that involving the Kaiser Bauxite Company which is next on the list. Asked whether he would be chairing those talks, Mr. Shearer would not comment. However, the indications are that despite engagements abroad over the next few months, he will also chair those negotiations.

The three contracts so far signed are for 29 months duration and all have similar improvements in rates of pay, shift premium, Sunday premium, discomfort, uniform and laundry allowances, as well as medical plan and life insurance.

Workers at all three firms are to receive increases setting a new top rate of \$12.54 per hour and a new bottom rate of \$6.35 per hour, in the first 14-month period of the contract; and, a new top rate of \$14.04 cents per hour and a bottom rate of \$7.11 per hour for the second 15-month period.

Life insurance coverage has been increased from \$15,000 to \$25,000 and will cover accidental death. The company and the union are to meet to revise and improve the pension and insurance plan, as well as the medical plan which is to be reviewed and improved to include dental and optical coverage. There are also to be discussions on the reclassification of 16 categories within the company.

The parties have also agreed to continue discussions on certain specific claim made on behalf of employees who work with contractors paid by the company.

After the signing both the company's Industrial Relations Director, Mr. S. J. Tyson, and the NWU's Island Supervisor, Mr. Lascelles Perry, paid tribute to Mr. Shearer, for the manner in which he had conducted the proceedings over the many weeks of negotiations.

Mr. Shearer in reply said that the country had benefitted from the negotiations not only in terms of the results, but also from the fact that the programme prevented a stoppage of work which would have meant a loss of production and foreign exchange earnings.

The company and the union agreed that with the contract now settled, the emphasis should be on productivity in order to maintain a level of efficiency to meet the international competition in the aluminum industry.

The NWU was represented at the talks by Mr. Perry and 15 worker-delegates, while the company was represented by Mr. Tyson and six other management personnel.

Note: This report ran incompleted yesterday, it is reprinted today in its entirety.

CSO: 3298/1071

DEFENSE FORCE POISED TO EXPAND COMPUTERIZATION

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 12 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The Jamaica Defence Force has entered the computer age with the establishment of its new computer centre building at Up Park Camp. The building, constructed entirely by J.D.F. soldiers, houses the first IBM System/36 to be installed in Jamaica.

Since April this year, the manual pay system for the over 1,000 civilians employed to the JDF was dismantled and replaced with a computerized payroll. Shortly after, personnel data for the thousands of soldiers in the army was also keyed into the System/36.

Colonel Trevor MacMillan, Adjutant Quarter Master in charge of Administration, said that the Army's pay system pre-dated the independence of Jamaica. "Computerization of certain administrative functions," he said, "would be accomplished on a phased basis over a three-year period starting with the payroll."

Historic

The computerization programme will eventually extend to personnel records, stores inventory with maintenance services for the Army's vehicles, ships and aircrafts coming later.

"If we know more about the individual soldier, his pay and problems...what we have in the stores, the individual vehicle, we can manage our human and material resources better," Colonel MacMillan said.

He expressed the belief that, in the long term, the JDF, as a result of the use of this advanced technology, should become more cost-efficient to the Government. The JDF takes pride in the fact that the building was erected by the JDF Engineering Unit and Construction Squadron, with supervision from the Vocational Training Development.

"This was an historic accomplishment, as it was

the first time that a building had been erected inside Up Park Camp solely by soldiers," said Colonel MacMillan.

A steering committee under his leadership was set up in 1981 to assess the needs of the JDF. The committee which consisted of commissioned JDF Officers, as well as Reserve officers, who were data-processing professionals, examined the implications of a computer being used to enhance the management of the Army's services, resources and flow of information.

The committee felt that the manual system could not cope with the volume of data and the constant changing of information required. The IBM System/36 was selected as it met the identified needs of the JDF.

According to Colonel MacMillan the computer will make information readily available so that management decisions can be more speedy.

Since the installation of the computer, the Payroll Department is operating with greater efficiency said Colonel MacMillan who had praise for the IBM systems engineers and programmers who assisted the army in this transition period.

This assistance has included the training of soldiers in systems analysis and programming, including Captain Stacey Thompson who heads the computer centre; and civilians in terminal operation as examples of the services provided by IBM and the National Computer Centre.

These people were being introduced to computer technology for the first time.

Colonel MacMillan observed that the British Army, upon which the JDF was patterned, as well as the U.S. Army were highly computerized.

He said the introduction of the computer at Up Park Camp was long overdue and the Government could utilise the expertise acquired to the benefit of the other sections of the security services.

NO MOVEMENT SEEN ON GOVERNMENT'S PROMISED DIVESTMENT

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 12 Aug 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Winston Witter]

[Text] A PUZZLING BRAKE has been applied to the Government's vaunted divestment programme, one of the planks on which the Seaga administration came to power nearly four years ago.

Despite the tabling of two Ministry Papers in Parliament last Spring to pave the way for the renaming of an agency, Jamaica National Investment Corporation (JNIC) to deal with Government's divestment and investment and to bring about tighter controls and accountability through administrative reforms, nothing seems to be happening.

In any event, if anything is happening, nobody wants to talk. Not even to the Divestment Committee which has been at a quandary as to what their role will be in the National Investment Bank of Jamaica.

Since the establishment of the Committee, it has only been able to fully dispose of three entities: Midland Enterprises, Southern Processors and Versair In-flight Services Limited.

Would Be Foolhardy

Mr. R. N. A. Henriques, chairman of the Committee told the Gleaner that there were no new entities before them for divestment; instead, old ones existed which had not yet been disposed of, such as Cornwall Dairies and Kingston Dry docks.

One could hardly believe that the Government is backing away from its divestment programme, a thing which would be foolhardy given its commitment to the International Monetary Fund to reduce public expenditure, thus slashing the budget deficit.

But one wonders why, however, Mr. Henriques has not been contacted about the role of the public selling committee in the National Investment Bank of Jamaica, if we are to take his word.

Henriques sounds believable and sincere about his job and has shown a clear understanding of the philosophy behind divestment or privatisation as he calls it.

"We have not been contacted as to how far they have gone with the setting up of the NIBJ," he said while noting that, "the committee has not been disbanded and we are supposed to fit in somewhere."

Mum's the Word

The Prime Minister's Office could not give any information on the JNIC and its transition to NIBJ. Most surprisingly the JNIC also cannot give any information; that is, from the managing director down.

The managing director's personal assistant referred the Gleaner to the chairman, Dr. Dhiru Tanna who has been off the island. This appears to be official dodging on a matter very vital to the national economy in the circumstances it is now being run.

Notwithstanding how the Government wants to treat divestment, the private sector has what has been described as an "enlightened view" on the matter which it expects the officialdom to hew to because in the end the base of that entrepreneurial group would be widened.

A source in that sector said that the whole matter of divestment must be viewed in the philosophical framework of privatisation, the process which inexorably pulls governments out of money-earning endeavours will not impinge on the mixed economy concept, which economic framework enjoys the base for policy guidelines of both major political parties--emphasis being the difference.

But a top private sector figure dismisses this possibility while adding that of course the Government could not be relieved of its responsibility to provide basic social services and ensure security for the nation through institutions which do not generate cash.

"The private sector is not intent on taking over Government, instead, we wish any regime to understand that they should not deprive us running certain businesses in their control which we know best to operate with the immense competence and expertise at our command," he said.

Less money has been made available to the private sector against the backdrop of a crippling credit squeeze. A great portion of the tax dollar goes towards propping up tottering Government enterprises such as Air Jamaica and the Jamaica Public Service Company, according to him.

The private sector is able to manage well; it has access to finances which would not prove a burden to taxpayers; and the losses sustained are never passed on to the consumer, he said. This spokesman says he is befuddled as to why any Government would want to maintain and run certain enterprises at astronomical cost to the consumer while the private sector was able to operate the same entities at the same or even higher levels at less cost to the consumer.

"Divestment is not being proposed because we want to emasculate Government. Divestment is desired to ensure a better quality of life for the people and improving the financial health of the nation."

Perhaps the Government would not want to divest by way of sale, another source said, but in this case the route of leasing and management contracts could be explored as is now being done in the case of hotels owned by the State.

Accountability

Sale of Government enterprise ought to take place whether or not those enterprises are making money, he opined. In this sense, the hopeful buyers should prove that they have the resources in place to make the enterprises into profitable entities.

It is felt that the whole process of divestment should be streamlined into an institution to ensure proper accountability and monitoring crowned by reports to the House of Representatives by a member of the Cabinet.

"Divestment should be part of the entire process of privatisation, rather than be regarded as a miscellaneous segment of government's policy," said one source.

For his part, Mr. Henriques hopes that the NIBJ will be able to bolster the work of the Divestment Committee, which he said, should be a sort of secretariat of the Bank. He said that the Committee's greatest problem in the past was that it could not get audited accounts of the enterprises.

Discontent

Over 70 public companies have not been able to provide an up-to-date account of their operations between 1978 and 1983, according to a knowledgeable Government source. Versair to date has been sold, and so have the buses and routes of J.O.S. and the Montego Bay Bus company.

The by-passing of the Divestment Committee has been a source of discontent to members who feel that, though they had been selected on the basis of their competence, they have been slighted in instances of divestment.

The committee exudes a sense of disquiet and dismay about the sale of the Jamaica Omnibus Service and the Montego Bay Bus Company, among a few other entities.

The private sector has a formidable point about prodding the Government to recognise divestment as an entrenched economic policy, rather than an ingredient in the heat-of-election debate.

What has emerged ever since the Government's meritorious divestment thrust, has been a creeping kind of jealousy among senior public servants who fear the "monster" of being "sold on the auction block" lurking in the wings.

As it now goes, the sale of any entity of government has to be done only after there has been a recommendation made to the Divestment Committee. The Committee's terms of reference do not allow it to make recommendations for sale.

So there remain many Government concerns, a heavy burden to the taxpayer, which will not be sold for they represent a "long term" security for these public servants.

"We don't make recommendations. This is where they started out on the wrong footing from the outset. They send the decision to us; but we have a problem because you don't have an independent body to question why Air Jamaica is losing \$25 million and is still being carried on the public purse," Mr. Henriques said.

The committee will be examining the mechanism of the National Investment Bank of Jamaica critically especially in the context whereby individual Ministries make recommendations for divestment but which have their interest to protect in non-divestment.

The government's leasing programme in the hotel sector does not fall under the portfolio of the committee; however, one member sits on the National Hotels and Properties leasing committee.

One of the drawbacks that the administrations was faced with the selling of hotels, was that prospective buyers wanted "little or nothing" for the vast expanse of lands on which they were sited.

This does not only exist where hotels are involved but also in other Government entities with big estates.

Though Mr. Henriques does not admit it, there has been quiet indignation and disapproval at the Government's seemingly gradual policy in buying faster than how it sells.

Clear in the minds of many are the languishing Forum Hotel, the sugarcane biased Caymanas Estate and the Petrojam Oil Refinery which despite the Government report of profits has been the subject of unconfirmed reports that it has been running into financial troubles, having been absorbing the shocks of devaluations in the face of stability in petrol price since January.

The Urban Development Corporation, according to reports is the State's main estate purchaser.

With a private sector as organised as it is today with the kind of no-nonsense leadership in place, it would be unfortunate if that organisation is forced to act decisively to remind the Government of the undying commitment of the sector of privatisation. And naturally so.

CSO: 3298/1072

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES COCOA INDUSTRY DIVESTMENT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Aug 84 p 16

[Text]

The Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Dr. Percival Broderick, has announced Government's plan to divest the Cocoa Industry Board Farm, which in three weeks will be renamed "The Cocoa Farm Development Company."

His disclosure served as a clarification to the tense farmers, at the annual general meeting of the Hanover Cocoa Growers Co-operative on Tuesday. They were anxious about rumours of the divestment of the Cocoa Industry Board. The Minister explained that it was not the Cocoa Board that has been divested, but the Cocoa Industry Board Farm.

"The Cocoa Industry Board is in the process of forming a company which will be called the Cocoa Farm Development Company," he said.

The formation of this company, he said, would be completed in another three weeks and would be appointed by the Cocoa Industry Board. He added that the company would serve as a community board to provide extension assistance to farmers.

Dr. Broderick went on to explain that the Cocoa Farm Development Company would invest in growing projects to give farmers price support.

"It is best for the Cocoa Board to invest in growing projects, because come seven

or eight years down the road, if the market gets tight, when the projects begin to earn money, then that (money) comes to the Board and gives the farmer a price support based out of an investment he made seven years before. And that is what the Cocoa Farm Development Company will start to look like in seven or eight years time, if managed properly," said Dr. Broderick.

He also noted that the company would be a sound concept for investment.

The Minister also seized the opportunity at the meeting to stress the need for farmers to plan in respect of their land acreage and the market demand. He said that the Ministry of Agriculture would be establishing a programme to aid farmers in planning.

"One of the programmes that the Ministry of Agriculture will be undertaking, starting this year as an exercise to assist farmers, is to put in place a programme where farmers will have a farm plan for his individual holding within a period of two years."

This plan, he said, would be revised every three years, "so that the farmer can be guided to more scientific use of his lands."

REGULAR SUPPLIES OF VENEZUELAN CRUDE AVAILABLE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 84 p 3

[Text]

REGULAR SUPPLIES of Venezuelan crude oil are now coming into the country, and there is no reason for consumers to buy excess gasoline at this time, an official of the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica told the Gleaner.

Following the rush shipment of 100,000 barrels two weeks ago are two cargoes of 350,000 barrels each, a total of 700,000 barrels, which is the amount needed per month.

"The situation won't be normal until the Petrojam refinery's inventory is built up again," the official said, "But there is no reason for a run on service stations. Supplies are coming in."

The PCJ spokesman stressed the need, instead, for consumers to limit their demand for gasoline, not because of impending shortage — there is none at this time — but because the country must save the hard currency which is required to purchase crude oil.

"Each shipment of 350,000 barrels costs US\$10 million," he said. "At the present rate of consumption, this means that the Bank of Jamaica must pay out US\$20 million per month, or roughly US\$250 million per year." After external debt servicing, this is the largest single foreign exchange expenditure.

At present all crude oil coming into Jamaica is from Venezuela under the terms of the revived San Jose Accord. Shipments from Mexico are to be resumed at a later date.

The PCJ official did not respond

directly to the Gleaner's question regarding the cost of keeping the Petrojam refinery nominally open, its approximately 95 workers on payroll, during recent months when the Government was buying finished oil from abroad on a cash basis. "The cost was to Petrojam, not to Jamaica," he said. Petrojam showed a profit of \$15 million for the period October 1982, when the Government acquired it from Esso, to December 1983.

"The Petrojam workers are highly skilled. It would be demoralising and counterproductive to lay them off and rehire them," he said, adding that they were needed to receive the finished oil products at the terminal during that time. Crude supplies to the refinery were resumed following the conclusion of the new IMF agreement and external debt rescheduling arrangements through the Paris Club talks last month.

The Gleaner also posed a question about possible deregulation of the petroleum distribution sector. The PCJ spokesman would neither confirm nor deny the report. Commenting on the general policy of the present Government to deregulate controlled areas of the economy to allow the play of market, he stated that there is a guaranteed profit built

into current pricing structure for the marketers, the haulage contractors and retail operators. This guaranteed profit destroys the incentive to hold down costs, to restrain union claims, or to improve services to the consumer.

Deregulation, he admitted, would probably cause an initial price rise, but competition would eventually result in better services and lower prices.

CSO: 3298/1072

SEAGA SPEAKS AS FOOD AID PROGRAM IS INITIATED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Jul 84 pp 1, 3

[Text]

The \$145 million food aid programme with health, education and welfare aspects and from which one million Jamaicans are to benefit was launched before thousands of rural citizens in Guy's Hill, St. Catherine by Prime Minister Edward Seaga on Thursday afternoon.

At the launching ceremony at the Guy's Hill Secondary School at the border of three parishes, St. Ann, St. Catherine and St. Mary, the first set of food stamps and registration booklets to be distributed under the programme were handed out to registered participants in the programme. However the distribution of food will not commence for another two weeks.

The Prime Minister announced at the ceremony that 55,000 Jamaicans of the 400,000 adults and children up to the age of three years who should qualify have already been registered. Poor relief officers, health personnel in clinics, and staff of the Ministry of Social Security are involved in continuing registration which should be completed in the next three months.

The other 600,000 to benefit are school children who need not be registered but will be provided with the aid in the form of lunches at school daily.

The Prime Minister described the programme as ambitious and said that many thought the programme is intended only to provide food to "fill the belly." He said it was designed to provide solutions to three problems faced by the country. Mr. Seaga said

the programme had an educational, health and welfare aspect.

Turning to the problems to be addressed by the programme, Mr. Seaga said many children were not able to benefit from adequate nutrition at an early age and this affected their health and mental development. Because of this they could not make maximum benefit of opportunities for learning. The health component of the programme will be addressed by the provision of food aid for 200,000 pregnant women and lactating mothers and children under three years old. The aid will come to this group in the form of rice, corn meal and milk through the health centres and clinics which they attend, the Prime Minister said. He said in this way the youth will receive adequate nutrition to enable them to take advantage of educational opportunities and also provide for healthier bodies and minds.

The education aspect of the programme will be addressed by the provision of "nutri buns" and one half a pint of milk per day to 600,000 children in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools across the country. The children will each pay 20 cents for the bun and milk the real value of which is about 80 cents the Prime Minister said.

He said that it was well known that some parents could not afford to provide lunches for their children and this led to absenteeism and a failure of the students to attain competence in reading and writing.

He said that that part of the

programme which is to provide for 200,000 elderly Jamaicans and families earning less than \$50 per week could be considered to be the welfare aspect. The food stamps with a value of \$20 per month to be given to those Jamaicans will be provided in addition to the \$20 per month now being given under the public assistance or poor relief programme to some of those persons. He said the programme was aimed at helping to provide adequate nutrition to the poor who could not afford to buy adequate amounts of food because of the increase in price.

Mr. Seaga stressed that the programme was to be non-partisan and that food would not be distributed on a partisan basis. "The programme has enough food for all" who qualify for the aid, Mr. Seaga said. The Prime Minister said he would not tolerate any distribution of the food in a partisan manner.

Referring to criticisms of the programme made by "another political party" Mr. Seaga said that he had noted that some had said the Government was bankrupt of ideas because it had brought about the programme. He said it was the critics who were speaking in bankrupt terms. "They are bankrupt in love for the people of the country inclusive of the poor of the country," he said. He asked that political leaders encourage their supporters to take part in the programme if they were eligible.

The Prime Minister said that the programme was "not a penny programme" and would cost \$145 million this year. He said the Government could not maintain subsidy on goods bought by the poor and the better-off. He said some could afford to buy food which had increased in price and they were being asked to allow the Government through the food aid programme to provide food for the poor, aged, children and mothers who are in need and nutritionally at risk.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Minister of Social Security Hon. Errol Anderson under whose Ministry the programme falls. Mr. Anderson said he had no doubt that the programme would be successfully implemented. He said "For the first time the poor and needy and the children are Poor Relief Offices to collect a new book and only items on the back of the stamps can be purchased from shopkeepers.

Under the current School Feeding Programme, 100,000 children are being assisted. The new programme, to include 500,000 more children, will

being put on the (nation's) agenda as the main point."

Also speaking was MP for North Central St. Catherine Mr. E. K. Powell who said that things were hard for the people of his constituency and that they welcomed the programme. He said many of his constituents are now complaining about the state of public amenities but were failing to remember that years ago they were unable to get food to eat. Also bringing greetings were Members of Parliament, Mrs. Hyacinth Knight (St. Mary West) and Mrs. Patsy Pink (St. Ann North East). Chairman of the programme was Miss Enid Bennett, Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Security.

Among those attending were Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. Douglas Vaz, the Minister of State in that Ministry, Mr. Karl Samuda and Members of Parliament, Dr. Joan Chung, Mr. Audley Woodhouse, Mr. Jeremy Palmer, Mr. Anthony Golding, Mr. Neville Murray; Mr. Pat Stephens and several Councillors.

Food stamps and registration booklets were handed out by the Prime Minister assisted by Mr. Anderson to old and indigent citizens, pregnant women and the unemployed and nutri buns and milk were provided for the thousands who attended.

According to a Jamaica House news release families with incomes of less than \$50 per week, and who are not registered under any aid programme, may also apply for food stamps at the Public Assistance Offices or Poor Relief Offices in the parishes.

Food stamps will be issued every two months in books containing ten stamps valuing \$20 by Poor Relief Offices. A new book will be given only after the previous one has been completed.

Identification cards must be presented at the begin in September this year and lunches will be prepared by five factories islandwide, operated by Nutrition Products Limited. School children will pay only twenty cents for prepared lunches.

Shopkeepers accepting food stamps must not give cash as change and they must ensure that only the food items on the stamps are given.

The stamps are redeemable by the shopkeeper for any goods from a supplier, at commercial banks or at the Bank of Jamaica.

PLANS FOR SUGAR REVAMP INCLUDE BRITISH COMPANY

Contract for Tate & Lyle

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Jul 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] THE LONDON-BASED sugar company Tate and Lyle has been engaged by the Government to provide technical management services for the National Sugar Company's factories--Frome, Monymusk and Bernard Lodge--which are to continue sugar production under the NSC, the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Dr. Percival Broderick said in a statement issued yesterday.

The Gleaner understands that under the programme the factories are to be refurbished at a cost of approximately \$80 million which will be financed by the Jamaican banking system, which is said to be now willing to provide such funding because of its confidence in the management ability of Tate & Lyle.

The Minister stressed that the three National Sugar Company factories will continue to employ the workforce without any change in terms and conditions of employment, and that all employees' rights will continue as provided under existing collective labour-management agreements.

Steps have been taken to ensure that the unions representing the workers in the sugar industry are aware of the arrangements, Dr. Broderick said, as he expressed confidence that the new "initiatives will enhance a brighter future" for sugar and those employed in it at every level.

The agreement with Tate and Lyle involves the provision of technical assistance, a planning phase and a management phase, the Minister said.

"Under the agreement Tate & Lyle will immediately undertake a full planning study covering all aspects of a corporate plan for the National Sugar Company's factories at Frome, Monymusk and Bernard Lodge. These plans will include:-

- (a) Establishment or confirmation of the technical bases for rehabilitation, renewal and ongoing operation of the facilities at the three estates and supporting agricultural areas.

- (b) Estimates of capital expenditure and revenue income and expenditure for the next five years.

(c) Identification of essential foreign exchange costs

(d) An approach to local and overseas equipment suppliers, banks, credit agencies and other financial institutions with a view to obtaining medium and long term facilities for the financing of goods and services required by the undertaking.

"The planning phase is estimated to cost £140,000 and will be paid for out of the proceeds a Export Credit Guarantee Department-backed Midland Bank loan granted to the National Sugar Company.

"Following completion and acceptance of the planning study, Tate & Lyle will enter into the management phase of the agreement and will become Managers of the project factories a 10-year management contract. During this phase, Tate & Lyle as Managers of the project factories will be subject to the control of the Board.

"Under the terms of the Management Contract, payments to Tate & Lyle will include three elements; fixed fees, incentive payments and re-imburseable costs. The fixed fees will be approximately £900,000 (sterling) in the first year and £500,000 in each year thereafter. The incentive payments will start at the rate of £12 per ton in the first year on all sugar produced in excess of a base tonnage of 120,000 tons 96 degree sugar. The rate will decrease by £1 per ton in each of the succeeding four years reaching a level of £8 per ton in Year 5, at which rate the payment for the remaining five years will be calculated. The factories are projected to increase production to a level of 190,000 tons sugar in Year 5 from the present production level of 100,000 tons.

"The third element in the payment structure relates to re-imburseable expenses which are those disbursements made by Tate & Lyle on behalf of the Company, for the benefit of staff resident in Jamaica. These expenses will be subject to audit, and should not exceed £500,000 in each of the first four years and £250,000 thereafter.

"It is anticipated that the planning phase will be completed before 31st December, 1984, and that the Management phase will commence on 1st January, 1985. In the meantime the factory capital and repair programme must be put on stream with immediate effect. In this connection Tate & Lyle will provide to National Sugar Company, selected management and technical personnel for deployment at the three estates in order to fill the urgent need for certain skills vital to improved factory performance. This will effectively strengthen the management and technical support staff at the project factories, clearing the way for the procurement of spares, supplies and financing. It is expected that some of these personnel will arrive in Jamaica on 7th August, 1984."

Dr. Broderick said that to ensure the continuity of the efficient operation of the factories by Jamaicans, the agreement provides that Tate and Lyle will train local personnel to succeed them in the shortest possible time.

"This is not a cheap exercise but necessary to stabilize the sugar industry," he said.

Factory Operating Losses

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Aug 84 pp 16, 17

[Text] THE OPERATING LOSSES at the three project factories--Frome, Monymusk, Bernard Lodge--which are to be managed by Tate and Lyle, amounted to \$49,724,000 between 1981 and 1983, and are projected to lose a further \$15,890,000 on the 1984 crop, states the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Dr. Percival Broderick.

Dr. Broderick said that it was important for the public to know some of the factors which led to the Government's decision to engage Tate and Lyle to provide technical assistance and manage the three National Sugar Company factories, in a further effort to "turn around the ailing sugar industry."

Minister Broderick said: "The involvement of Tate and Lyle at this time must be viewed against the background of the present plight of the industry. The Jamaican Sugar Industry has been in a constant state of decline since the record production level of 506,000 tons was achieved in 1965.

"The National Sugar Company was formed in 1975 to acquire from private ownership those failing sugar factories, in an attempt to stabilize the industry and preserve an important contributor to the socio-economic well being of the country.

"Between 1975 and 1979 the Company acquired eight sugar factories which were all sustaining losses at the time of acquisition. Some of the factories were in a terribly run-down state, and needed to be re-equipped and recapitalized. The necessary level of funding to achieve this was never provided and the factories continued to experience losses and declining production.

This exasperated the other problems which were: a shortage of highly qualified top-level managers; deficiencies in the supervisory staff; excessive manning levels, and generally low morale. These conditions have generally continued to plague National Sugar Company and the point has now been reached where there are rumours of wide-spread corruption, and increasingly large sums of money are required to be put into National Sugar factories with little hope of achieving viability and servicing debts.

The operating losses sustained at the project factories before finance charges over the last three years are shown in the Table below:

	<u>1981</u> \$'000	<u>1982</u> \$'000	<u>1983</u> \$'000	<u>*1984</u> \$'000
Frome	494	4,118	4,795	7,400
Monymusk	2,089	9,924	15,104	7,500
Bernard Lodge	1,612	1,356	10,132	990

*1984 (Estimated)

"With the removal of Government budgetary support at 31st March, 1984 closure of the Long Pond, Duckenfield and Gray's Inn factories was announced. Since that time arrangements have been concluded to keep the Long Pond and Duckenfield factories open under new arrangements involving Jamaica management. However, the magnitude of the funding requirements of the remaining three (3) National Sugar factories--Frome, Monymusk and Bernard Lodge--necessitated international support and explains the involvement of Tate & Lyle.

"Since the international institutions are unwilling to make further loans to the sugar industry in the absence of proven management, Tate & Lyle with the Midland Bank group will now make arrangements for securing international funding for the foreign exchange element of the project.

"The selection of Tate & Lyle as Managers of these factories was taken after the most careful consideration and recognizes the Company's record of achievement in sugar production and world-wide acceptance of its expertise, together with the all important link in their purchasing of all Jamaica's EEC Quota sugar as part of the ACP Purchases.

"ACP sugar is being sold in the U.K. and EEC in highly competitive markets with strong competition from other sugar, starch sweeteners, artificial sweeteners and other carbohydrate foods. To be successful ACP sugar must be sold at competitive prices, be of good quality, be always readily available and be backed up by first class service in technology, administration and distribution. Tate & Lyle plays a significant role in all these areas, and their further involvement in the Jamaica sugar industry at this time is the best chance that the local industry has for survival in the world cane sugar industry.

"Tate & Lyle's role as Managers will not affect the ownership status of the existing companies, i.e., The West Indies Sugar Company Limited, (Frome), The Clarendon Sugar Company Limited (Monymusk) and The Jamaica Sugar Manufacturing Company Limited (Bernard Lodge).

These companies will continue to employ the workforce with unchanged terms and conditions of employment. This means the safeguarding of the employees' rights under the Collective Labour Agreement which includes such things as: -guaranteed out-of-crop employment, vacation leave, sick leave, insurance, scholarships, pension, union representation and any other benefits and entitlements.

"In ensuring the continuity of the efficient operation of the factories by Jamaicans, the Agreement provides that Tate & Lyle will train local personnel to succeed them in the shortest possible time.

"Steps have been taken to ensure that the Unions are aware of these arrangements.

"This is not a cheap exercise but necessary to stabilize the Sugary Industry.

"I am confident that these initiatives will greatly enhance the prospect of a brighter future for sugar and that those employed at every level will play their part in helping to rebuild a significant part of the Industry and contribute to its stable future."

DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR REPORTED

Agro Products Activities

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Jul 84 p 10

[Text] JAMAICA AGRO PRODUCTS, owners of Spring Plain and St. Jago Farms, Clarendon, have signed an agreement with AGREXCO their marketing agent in London, for the marketing of 22 million pounds of vegetables for the next Winter season.

Spring Plain now have under cultivation 685 acres of soyabeans which will be harvested in the middle of August. In addition there are 60 acres of onion and 40 acres of sweet corn.

The plan for the coming Winter season is for 850 acres of Winter vegetables, including 14 million pounds of sweet peppers. All these are to be grown at St. Jago and Spring Plain.

--As a result of this planning the agreement with AGREXCO was signed for the marketing of approximately 22 million pounds of vegetables for the next Winter season. Surplus seedlings from this exercise will be supplied to local farmers and JAPL will buy the produce from them at a guaranteed price for the export market.

--There are 110 acres under construction on the fish farm, and the yield per acre is projected to be "very high." Spring Plain have also started a fish hatchery and are planning to supply local fish farmers with "a few million pounds" (of fingerlings) each year.

--There are 1,250 acres in a banana nursery at Spring Plain, and the JAPL management have already started moving suckers to the fields of Paranasus Estate. They are planning to cultivate up to 2,500 acres in banana.

The Spring Plain management team are also planning to build their own nursery "with a new system of seedlings" to supply their own needs as well as the needs of local farmers.

They have also constructed a factory where they produce all the drip irrigation pipes and fittings for their own needs, as well as the local market, and they have had enquiries and requests for supplies from overseas.

There are plans for the building of a tissue culture laboratory and a fish processing company at St. Jago, and JAPL are looking into the possibility of establishing orchards of mangoes and avocados.

Rural Improvement Plans

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 84 p 15

[Text] Local improvement programmes for three of the island's rural constituencies were announced recently by Prime Minister Seaga at Guy's Hill on Thursday of last week.

Mr. Seaga, who was visiting Guy's Hill to officiate at the formal opening of the Food Aid Programme for nutritional support for nearly one-half of the island's population, announced Ministry of Finance approval for programmes proposed by constituent members of Parliament.

Since Guy's Hill is at the intersection of North-Eastern St. Catherine, Western St. Mary and South-Eastern St. Ann, Mr. Seaga took the opportunity of announcing the programmes for these three constituencies under the Local Development Programme, under which individual MP's throughout the island have responsibility each for the expenditure of \$500,000 in the Estimates of Expenditure for urgent community improvement in their areas.

The following works had been approved:-

NORTH-EAST ST. CATHERINE--Mr. E. K. Powell, (Member of Parliament)

- \$15,200 to provide piped water from the entombment to the main road at Seafield;
- \$16,000 to repair indigent housing; and
- \$68,800 for the maintenance of roads.

WESTERN ST. MARY--Mrs. Hyacinth Knight (Member of Parliament)

- \$15,000 for the extension of the water supply, Race Course, Mile Gully, Jackson;
- \$82,500 for the maintenance of roads; and,
- \$2,500 for repairs to the Hartlands Community Centre.

SOUTH-EASTERN ST. ANN--Mrs. Patsy Pink (Member of Parliament)

- \$93,000 for improvement of roads;
- \$3,000 for indigent housing; and
- \$4,000 for water supplies improvement.

In addition another \$85,000 will be spent by the Ministry of Construction for immediate improvement of roads in this constituency making a total of \$178,000.

This was the second announcement by the Government under the Local Department Programme. Mr. Seaga made the first announcement of works under this programme during his visit to Eastern Hanover.

The Prime Minister also included in his announcements while at Guy's Hill, other general improvement works undertaken or in progress in the areas. In Guy's Hill a new Call Box had been installed, and the Community Centre, the Police Station and the Health Centre had been refurbished.

The Health Centre was now fully staffed, with a doctor visiting three days a week. This year the old A.M.C. facilities will be converted at a cost of approximately \$125,000 into an assembly and grading station, and a producers' organisation to manage this station was already in place.

In the Guy's Hill area, \$160,000 was spent last financial year for electrical repairs to the White River intake for the area's water supply. As a result the two sources--Great River and White River--were once again fully operative.

These two sources, however, the Prime Minister said, were inadequate and preliminary engineering designs were now being done to provide a third source at Indian River to augment the two.

A sum of \$5 million is now being arranged to install a new water supply system from this source.

In Western St. Mary, another \$100,000 is already earmarked by the Ministry of Works for other road improvements.

In North Eastern St. Ann, a new market at Claremont will be completed by the end of this month at an approximate cost of \$1 million.

Seaga, Broderick Remarks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Aug 84 p 3

[Excerpts] THE CONTROL of the price of "whole milk", or the fresh milk supplied by dairy farmrs is to be withdrawn, Prime Minister Seaga said at the Denbigh show in Clarendon, yesterday.

Mr. Seaga said that the Government had decided to remove the control, so that farmers could sell it for an economic price, subject only to the reaction of the market place "and those people who desire whole milk and who want it because they particularly favoured that milk".

He said that farmers would be informed soon of the new move through the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. Seaga said that reconstituted milk (milk powder) would be kept at current prices for the benefit of the poor. He said that the reconstituted milk was no different from the whole milk, except that it was dehydrated and needed water to be made into whole milk.

Mr. Seaga was speaking at the closing of the three-day Denbigh agricultural fair at Denbigh, Clarendon, which was attended by thousands from all over the island.

In his address, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Broderick, said that there would be a further fall in the tonnage of sugar produced by the sugar companies this year.

He said that six publicly-owned sugar factories which had a capacity of 220,000 tons last year, had produced only 119,432 tons. He described their performance as a "sad catalogue of performance in the industry".

Dr. Broderick said that the projected losses of the national sugar factories this year was \$52.6 million; and he could not see how the country could stand those losses.

There were two fundamental problems which had to be addressed immediately, and these were: the management of the sugar factories; and, the financing available to the industry.

In an effort to obtain financing for the industry, the Government had contacted several international firms, none of which were interested in financing the industry, mainly because of the level of management that existed.

However, the Government had been able to obtain the expertise of Tate and Lyle. Thirteen Tate and Lyle representatives were expected to arrive in the island this week, to immediately take-over the management and technical development of Frome, Monymusk and Bernard Lodge Estates.

They included general managers, mechanical and electrical engineers, financial controllers, irrigation experts and agronomists.

Another group is to arrive within the next three weeks to work on plans to rehabilitate the factories, including the upgrading and the maintenance of equipment and machinery at all the factories.

With the acquiring of acceptable international lending institutions were now willing to finance a revitalization of the sugar industry.

Dr. Broderick said that the Government was now looking towards strong and effective decisions affecting the industry and he expected that at the next Denbigh Show, he would be able to speak in favourable terms of the industry on a whole.

CSO: 3298/1073

NEGRIL WETLANDS SUPPORTED; PEAT MINING WEIGHED

Minister Hart's Position

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 84 p 32

[Text]

Management of the Negril wetlands is mandatory, with or without peat mining, the Minister of Mining and Energy, the Hon. Senator Hugh Hart, told the Senate on Friday, July 20. He said that if control was not put on the present activities in the Negril Swamps, the degradation of the environment would increase at an alarming rate, and the wetlands and Negril Beach would ultimately be destroyed.

He said that far from destroying the wetlands, peat mining could help to rehabilitate them and protect the valuable Negril environment:

"The one thing peat mining is incompatible with is ganja cultivation with its attendant activities. The plan to stop the peat project must be seen in this context."

Senator Hart said that between the late 1970s and the early 1980s, the cultivation of ganja, which began with small plots, quickly grew to increasingly larger areas, and by November 1983, of the 5,000 acres covered by the Negril Swamp, over 1,000 acres

had been put under ganja cultivation.

This resulted in the removal of swamp vegetation by burning, clearing and slashing; the putting in of more than 10 miles of major canals in the swamp to drain it; the exposure of the peat soil and its subsequent decomposition and shrinkage; the migration into the swamps of ganja cultivators; the increase in traffic in and out of the swamps; and, a number of ganja airstrips in and adjacent to the swamps.

He said that in 1984 the reaction to PCJ personnel entering the swamp had become hostile. Unfortunate incidents occurred while PCJ staff were carrying out soil tests at the Abingdon property at Southwest Point, where an airstrip was located.

A number of things started occurring after the test: a campaign of getting the hoteliers' support in opposing the peat project was initiated; university personnel were contacted and supported with the idea of carrying out tests in the swamp; a gathering of university person-

nel and the media was arranged in June, followed by a large public meeting; this was followed immediately by a press campaign in which the PCJ was vilified and the Government called upon to abandon the project.

He said that the peat project had been under observation by the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica for six years, and some \$4 million had already been spent on those investigations.

There have been approximately 44 studies done on peat in Jamaica involving all aspects of its mining for power generation, and those studies have been done by eminent persons from Sweden, Finland, Ireland, his Ministry, the National Peat Committee and the PCJ.

In addition, the World Bank has been doing a study, the detailed results of which would be available by the end of August.

He said that the wetland in Negril comprised one of the two largest remaining wetland areas in Jamaica;

the other being the Lower Black Morass. Both are considered essential for ecological conservation, the maintenance of proper hydrological balance and the development of the wetland's recreational potential.

The "peat for power" project could not be seen in isolation to all other uses of the wet-

lands, and the PCJ's position was that before any development of that area could begin, environmental management must begin.

"This cannot be done with ganja cultivation continuing as it is. In fact, as long as the present activities continue, no other use of the wetlands can be envisaged," the Minister said.

Chamber of Commerce Explanation

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 13 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] A suggestion that its opposition to the proposed mining of peat in Negril is motivated by an interest in the growing of ganja has been repudiated by the Negril Chamber of Commerce, the principal opponent of the project.

A statement issued by the Chamber, through its vice-president, Mr. Nehru Coalsingh, declared: "We would like to state categorically that our opposition to the mining and processing of peat for energy is in absolutely no way influenced by any person or persons in the drug business."

According to the Chamber, it "views with alarm and dismay" the line of argument put forward by some who are opposed to the stand taken by the Chamber.

"The Chamber has been accused of being manipulated by ganja interests. It has been suggested that our opposition to peat-mining and processing for energy stems from our interest to keep ganja cultivation going. However, no one has reported that the Chamber is in total agreement with the proper management of the wetlands," the statement said.

"We would like to place on record our strong objection to those who suggest we are being manipulated and 'rehearsed' by drug interests."

CSO: 3298/1074

BRIEFS

NEW AIRFIELD HOURS--Changes in the daily operating hours for four of the six Government domestic aerodromes, with effect from tomorrow, were announced yesterday by the Ministry of Public Utilities and Transport. The other two will be closed from this date. The new operating hours are: Boscobel, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Ken Jones, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Negril, 8.15 a.m. to 5.15 p.m.; Tinson Pen, 7 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. The Braco and Vernamfield aerodromes will be closed. The Ministry has also stated that none of the aerodromes listed will be available for use by aircraft outside of the published hours of operation except for the Jamaica Defence Force planes or those scheduled aircraft which are expected to arrive late and for which prior arrangements have been made with the Director of civil Aviation. Use of the aerodromes under any other condition will require the written permission by the Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, a J.I.S. report said. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Aug 84 p 3]

CSO: 3298/1074

MEXICO

APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT SAID TO LEAVE 'LA QUINA' VICTORIOUS

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 403, 23 Jul 84 pp 6-10

[Article by Francisco Ortiz Pinchetti]

[Text] He's done it.

Finally acknowledged as a spotless leader (no other adjective will suffice), Joaquin Hernandez Galicia received the presidential embrace this past 4 July with the pride of someone accepting a well-deserved victory award.

"La Quina" is the winner. No doubt about it.

The accusations, the evidence, the scandal were of no use against his honesty and rectitude. He made his way out of the mud; to put it more exactly, he lifted himself up; no, he rose up.

Just a few months after his name seemed to be on the official list of this country's major plunderers ("finally," his accusers rejoiced), the courts came to his aid and no less than the president of the republic proclaimed him a model leader.

It was not easy, of course, for Hernandez Galicia to make it to that happy and historic meeting with Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado in Ciudad Madero. La Quina had to struggle ceaselessly against the moralizers who were threatening to depose him without so much as saying thanks for the 25 years of countless efforts and sacrifices that he made on behalf of the oil industry workers, his children, and all of Mexico.

He bravely took on his detractors with the overwhelming, freely given, enthusiastic and clamorous support of labor leaders. He generously expanded social benefits and gave more handouts to the workers. He boldly parried the accusations and avoided the traps. He enlightenedly announced the moralization of the union before the government could step in. He patriotically proposed ingenious solutions to the economic, food-related and social problems besetting the country. He vigilantly spoke out against blunders and irregularities in PEMEX's new 6-year administration. He modestly promised to resign as a union leader this

year, at the risk of being called a liar. He intelligently promoted an unprecedented campaign (in which money was no object) to clean up the image of the oil workers and, in so doing, his own image.

How blind were those who had doubts. How misguided were those who lent an ear to the accusations. How vengeful were those who portrayed La Quina as a man drunk with power and corrupt to the core.

Sooner or later the truth had to shine forth. We now know that Joaquin is an upstanding leader, the example to follow, the union standard-bearer par excellence.

Hallelujah!

It was impossible to let him go, impossible not to give in and wind up becoming friends with a man like him: upright, honest, tender, prudent, loving, generous, patriotic, selfless, especially now when the Mexican people badly need leaders in whom they can trust, whom they can follow.

What do his peccadilloes matter; he is human after all. His essential goodness far outweighs the arrogance and the abuse, the sale of positions, the personal use of 70 billion pesos over 6 years without accounting to anyone, the trafficking in contracts, the private business deals under union cover, the crackdown (physical as well) on dissidents, the spurious assemblies, the boundless extravagance, the exploitation of temporary workers, the complicity with PEMEX executives who have been proven to be corrupt, terror as a tool for retaining power, the 2,000 workers hired to work for him, the open imposition of sectional and national union leaders, the systematic violation of the statutes and so many other peccadilloes set forth in heaps of files, judicial accusations and hundreds upon hundreds of pages of the national press, when the mud became as plentiful as oil and the wishful thinkers believed that now, at long last the moral renovation of Mexican society would begin in earnest and would not be stopped by the oil union empire that La Quina embodied.

"I want to acknowledge the oil union's tenacity, hard work, loyalty and commitment to make PEMEX more of a model Mexican enterprise every day, a model of forthrightness, a model of honesty in the running of its union," said Miguel de la Madrid on the morning of 4 July in Ciudad Madero.

These were the president's words to 12,000 oil workers just moments before he warmly embraced his friend Joaquin Hernandez Galicia.

La Quina Interviewed by Luis Suarez

A little over a year ago (PROCESO, 333), Hernandez Galicia called newsmen "swine" and said that he did not give interviews because they were used only for attacks on him. "When we want to say something, we pay to have it published," he clarified arrogantly.

Around that time the tide of the moral renovation seemed strong enough to break through the dikes that La Quina had erected to protect his empire.

Since then three books have been published on the brilliant career of the real leader of the Trade Union of Petroleum Workers of the Mexican Republic (STPRM). They tell of his hardships, his struggles and his tireless efforts to benefit first the union workers and then all Mexicans.

Two records of romantic songs that he himself wrote were also put out, illustrating his sensitivity and simple, homespun nature.

More recently, La Quina has granted several interviews to selected newsmen, none of them, of course, among the "swine" who attack him. At the same time, a costly radio and television campaign was set in motion to emphasize the STPRM's contributions to the country's development and to the well-being of the Mexican people. "We are working for Mexico," the advertisements say.

None of these published reports and campaigns have been as valuable, however, as the interview that journalist Luis Suarez did with the moral leader of 80,000 petroleum industry workers. It was published in the edition marking the 31st anniversary of the magazine SIEMPRE on 27 June, just 8 days before Miguel de la Madrid visited Ciudad Madero.

An interviewer of major figures, from Fidel Castro to Luis Echeverria, Suarez managed to do something that no one else before him had done: to discover an incomparable human being in Hernandez Galicia.

The interview is entitled "La Quina As Seen by La Quina." Surprisingly, it takes up five pages of the weekly magazine. It is illustrated with four photos. In three of them La Quina, smiling and looking paternal, is shown playing with one of his grandchildren; the other shows the leader and his interviewer posing very self-satisfiedly. Suarez asked him such incisive questions as: "What do you do to avoid contamination from human shortcomings?"

Hernandez Galicia goes off on flights of fancy. Spurred on by the pointed questions of his interviewer, he describes himself as "a fulfilled, self-assured man and the happiest man in the country."

He says things such as these, among many others (SIEMPRE highlighted them in its summary): "I have overcome self-worship and vanity...My virtues: loyalty, hard work and honesty...Poverty tears me apart and depresses me; affluence and waste enrage me...If I fail or someone else fails because of inexperience, I become sad...I am tough with petty thieves, disloyal people and traitors...When I was young, I was a carouser; later on, I became and am completely organized and a real homebody...I don't want any homage at the end of the line, because I'm getting one now while I'm alive."

La Quina also confesses to being "humble and simple." He says: "Humble in being able to ask for things, not with indignity but with simplicity. I have never thought that I was petulant or haughty. To be sensible, human even though others try to make me look the opposite...I am a very simple man. I just think that I am a dignified man. The day that a man loses his dignity, he is no longer a man, he is nothing."

He also speaks about the hard job of being a leader:

"I think that a leader's mission should be more than just representing his workers and their rights in industry; he should also defend them in everyday life. It is very beautiful when a leader is concerned about his comrades when they are ill or have other problems, except dishonesty. It is a beautiful thing to help others. I feel very satisfied. I meet with people until midnight or 1 in the morning, and by that time I'm a bit tired..."

On pleasure:

"Doing good is what gives me pleasure, doing good to anyone, even my enemies. I like to build factories and stores so that people have inexpensive food to buy. I like to see people's happy faces every time we open a low-cost cost. I like to see the union mostly united. I like to see the sun and the moon. Now and then I take some time to gaze at the moon...Then there is the pleasure of planning new projects for society, the pleasure of my grandchildren. My grandson is really mischievous. I love playing with my grandchildren, my children...seeing people happy. The rest are worldly pleasures."

Are you struck by the poverty that at times surrounds us? Luis Suarez asked.

"Poverty tears me apart and depresses me," La Quina replied. "I was poor as a child...We were very poor. And of course now that I have not the power, as people say, but the right that others have given me to do great things, my main aim is always to help poor people, to give to the poor. The most beautiful thing, I think, is that my people, my comrades have understood this effort. Because if they didn't want me to, I wouldn't do these things. In other words, if I build a school, if I give away a wheelchair or if I order inexpensive foods distributed, it is because my comrades authorize me to do so, they approve it at the assemblies at which they have given me this authority to do good without having to consult with them in advance. That's why you see us going around handing out chickens, roosters, prickly pears, fruit trees, distributing in the poor districts, telling people to fend for themselves, not to go around complaining, to distribute inexpensive food. Because there are poor people who do not realize this."

Suarez poses another aggressive question: "Are you an impassioned or a passionate person?" Hernandez Galicia replied thus:

"Passionate is something else. I m impassioned. Passionate means losing control. I am impassioned about good things, good passion, hard work, loyalty, creativity, accomplishment. I am impassioned about all noble causes. How I admire a loyal person, how I admire a hardworking person, how I admire an honest person! I admire them. The other side comes out in a very few persons: being impassioned about haughtiness, vanity, self-worship."

Towards the end of the lengthy interview, which contains so many other beautiful things, Suarez asks La Quina what he would have liked to be if he had not become a leader. His reply reads like a poem:

"When I was a little boy and saw those big trucks passing by, I wanted to be a truck driver. As an adult I have come to realize that experience more than money is what ultimately is useful to man. One can do no better than to provide food, streets with lighting, love, friendship. Farming will be a passion with me until I die because by growing food we provide meals for the poor. That is what I will be until the Creator summons me: a constant provider."

How blind were those who doubted.

A Man With a Future

The flood of accusations that rained down on Hernandez Galicia and his unconditional follower Salvador Barragan Camacho, the pro-forma leader of the STPRM, have come to absolutely naught. The dissidents have once more been defeated. The evidence of the plunder has been shunted aside. And Hector Garcia Hernandez, "El Trampas," is where he belongs: jail.

It was precisely the case of El Trampas that touched off the petroleum scandal. Accused of a 985-million peso fraud by his former partners, Garcia Hernandez counterattacked by blowing the lid off: he described La Quina and Barragan Camacho as the heads of a gang of crooks "that even resorts to murder to get rid of its enemies and protect its ill-gotten gains," as he stated in a letter that he sent to President Miguel de la Madrid on 22 August of last year (PROCESO, 356).

El Trampas gave figures, details, examples.

This was, of course, intolerable to a man as honest as La Quina, who promptly did the police the favor of nabbing the fugitive, as three armed men of his kidnapped him from his hideout in McCallen, Texas and brought him directly to the home of the moral leader in Ciudad Madero. We can just imagine how La Quina reprimanded his former colleague. And, of course, he turned him over to the authorities as a generous, spontaneous contribution to the moral renovation.

From jail El Trampas reaffirmed and expanded on his charges. He claimed that the accusation against him had been prearranged by him and the two STPRM leaders to give the impression that the union was being cleaned

up. He offered proof of his charges. He provided details about how La Quina and Barragan Camacho use the money that PEMEX hands in as they please and about how they control the union by dint of terror and intrigue (PROCESO, 359).

In the midst of the scandal, the National Petroleum Movement (MNP), the haven of the dissidents, reasserted its longstanding charges of corruption in the STPRM and leveled new accusations, with evidence. It claimed that the oil union leaders were accomplices in the corrupt PEMEX administration headed by Jorge Diaz Serrano, who is also in jail at present.

There were even SPTRM sectional leaders who thought that the time had come to blow the lid off and, like Section 10's David Ramirez Cruz, spoke out against the selling of positions, giving names and details.

The roof seemed to be caving in. Nothing more could be said about the widespread corruption that was there for all to see.

La Quina did not sit still. Once again spurred on by his desire to serve, he began pressuring the PEMEX administration on the one hand and, on the other, moved to crush the reemerging dissidents and regain complete control of the organization. He ordered early elections for leaders in the sections and at assemblies very much in his own style, and he once again put in his hard-core followers, spotless leaders of proven rectitude, of course.

One of them was Onesimo Escobar, from Section 26 in Las Choapas. Since this oil industry leader is also a local deputy representing Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, he was obliged by law to declare his net worth. As honest as the day is long, he declared a net worth of 2 billion pesos: ranches, cars, trucks, 100-peso gold pieces, a watch collection, a private jet (EL UNIVERSAL, 9 June 1984).

A good example.

The storm gradually subsided. Standing firm at the helm, Hernandez Galicia turned the charges into slander, the evidence into falsehoods, the denunciations into malicious gossip. He once again vindicated his good name. He brought everyone to their knees.

First came Mario Ramon Beteta, the director of PEMEX.

Bent on creating a "new PEMEX," Beteta had been lukewarm about a friendship with LA QUINA, as had almost all of the other directors of the state-run oil company who at one time or another tried to set the oil union straight.

On Sunday 27 May, Beteta was invited by La Quina and Barragan Camacho to a special assembly of Section 1 in Ciudad Madero. There they "reaffirmed the relations of understanding and friendship between labor and management at PEMEX."

With his speech, which he began with "my friend Joaquin, my friend Chava," Beteta set in motion the official santification of La Quina. He said, for example:

"As ongoing observers of national events and as high-minded patriots, you union leaders, headed by Joaquin Hernandez Galicia and Salvador Barragan Camacho, have understood the need to unconditionally support the policies of Miguel de la Madrid, as we have come here to reaffirm this morning..."

He left no room for doubt.

"I am certain that this is the reaffirmation, not just the beginning of a commitment, of an increasingly better, an increasingly solid, an increasingly sincere and increasingly and more genuinely fond relationship between the union and the management of PEMEX."

The sun shone.

The culmination came 38 days later. On 4 July, President Miguel de la Madrid attended another "special assembly" of Section 1 in Ciudad Madero. The oil industry workers gave him an ecstatic, monumental, overwhelming reception, with the generous support of local residents, from the time that he arrived in Tampico.

At the jam-packed new Convention Center of Section 1, the president of the republic heard the touching words of Joaquin Hernandez Galicia:

"Mr President: Because of what is happening to us and what could happen to us, we must without delay rid ourselves of the envious, of the egotists, of the haughty, of the dishonest, of the intriguers, of the incompetent, because they are the ones who have always divided us, who have always ruined and are ruining our country."

The facts, La Quina proclaimed, "are disproving the lies, the slander, the ploys and the claims. You are already seeing this happen and you will continue seeing it, because we have always been and will always be loyal to you."

In one of his typical gestures of generosity, the moral leader of the STPRM announced:

"To make your visit to Ciudad Madero an indelible memory," he told the president, "the board of directors of our group (Unifying, Revolutionary, Nationalist and Humanist) has resolved, as of 1 August, not to collect union dues other than for death, life insurance and voluntary assistance.

"The honest management for 25 years now of union funds," he clarified, "the profits from PEMEX projects and our reinvestments have given us the solid economic foundation and autonomy to make this decision, which

demonstrates that when union autonomy is respected, we workers can also be good businessmen without stuffing our pockets, good bankers without extorting and capable manufacturers without exploiting. And what is most meritorious, while cooperating with and supporting our government, without upsetting the balance, without going to extremes, merely thinking and acting in a nationalistic and humanistic manner."

The president's reply represented a full-fledged recognition of the efforts that the union and its leaders have made to put the union's house in order and to serve Mexico loyally and patriotically. "A model of forthrightness, a model of honesty," were Miguel de la Madrid's exact words.

The administration has absolved La Quina, moreover, just when the star of CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] leader Fidel Velazquez seems to be actually falling this time. An indication of this is the confrontations that have come to public light between the veteran leader and the chief executive, even though they have apparently been smoothed out.

At this point in time, Joaquin Hernandez Galicia is being proclaimed a model leader. He even succeeded in winning out over the moral renovation. His strength has redoubled. The road to the national general secretariat of the STPRM (which he already headed in 1962 and 1964) seems clear, even with the statutory obstacles that exist. This is for the time being.

The presidential embrace finally enlightened the misguided. Hallelujah.

8743

CSO: 3248/747

MEXICO

PRI-LINKED PEASANTS SEIZE, RELEASE TAMAULIPAS TOWN OFFICIALS

City Hall Occupied

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Jul 84 p 12-D

[Article by Enrique Pedroza, EXCELSIOR correspondent]

[Text] Abasolo, Tamaulipas, 23 Jul--Some 400 peasant farmers who yesterday occupied city hall are holding PST [Socialist Workers Party] Mayor Jose Rodriguez Gonzalez, as well as Jorge Cardenas and Jose Mantes, the chief of police and the town treasurer, respectively, for having ordered the police last Saturday to break up a dance organized by the town's Material Improvements Committee (CMMA).

Representatives of the state government and of the PST have been negotiating with the peasant farmers for an end to their takeover of the building, which took place yesterday, said the commander of the judicial police in the state, Brigido Cruz.

He asserted that the takeover of city hall and the kidnapping of the three officials was led by the chairman of the CMMA, Jesus Cavazos.

He indicated that Mayor Rodriguez Gonzalez ordered the police, backed by military troops, to break up a dance that was going on in the downtown area. This took place at 2145 hours on Saturday.

The dance was being held to raise funds for the improvement of streets and social centers, Jesus Cavazos claimed.

While they were breaking up the dance, the police confiscated various amounts of alcoholic beverages, the police commander said.

In taking over the city hall building, the peasant farmer group cut off the supply of drinking water and electric power.

Meanwhile, the director of the Rural Police, Romeo Davila Villarreal, reported that the situation "is under control" and that nothing major would come of the incident.

Actions Taken Against Officials

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Jul 84 p 42-A

[Article by Enrique Pedroza, EXCELSIOR correspondent]

[Text] Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, 24 Jul--The PRI members who took over the Abasolo city hall building on Sunday left today. They got the town's PST mayor, Jose Rodriguez Gonzalez, to sign an agreement removing the town treasurer from office and suspending the local police chief.

The 300 PRI people were demanding the resignation of the mayor. The state government director, Ernesto Montelongo Legorreta, reported that the agreement also calls for changes in the makeup of the Material Improvements Board, which will be handed over to the PRI group headed by Juan Riestra and David Lara.

The state official said that the state government has guaranteed conditions under which Jose Rodriguez Gonzalez's PST city government could continue in office and that the PRI people expressed their support for this decision.

Montelongo Legorreta asserted that "social and political calm has returned to the municipality of Abasolo, and we hope that the two groups will show respect for each other to avoid problems that might again disturb the peace in the municipality."

8743

CSO: 3248/748

MEXICO

PRESIDENT, CHERNENKO EXCHANGE MESSAGES

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Aug 84 pp 5-A, 31-A

[Excerpts] Cooperation between Mexico and the Soviet Union has increased and strengthened significantly over the 60 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries; and the mounting trade and excellent cultural exchanges are proof of the fine state of political relations between the two governments and also reflect the mutual esteem that the two peoples feel for each other, President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado indicated to Soviet Premier Konstantin Chernenko in the message that he sent him on the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Both the chief executives and the foreign ministers of the two countries exchanged messages to mark the occasion.

"The Mexican Government bases its foreign policy on unqualified adherence to the principles of law and coexistence between States, which, in turn, are in keeping with the vocation and desires of the Mexican people. Self-determination, nonintervention, a peaceful settlement of disputes, the equality of States before the law, universal and total disarmament and international cooperation for development are immutable tenets and standards of conduct for the Mexican people.

"The anniversary that we are commemorating is a propitious opportunity to reaffirm my conviction that relations between Mexico and the Soviet Union, which are based on mutual understanding and respect, will grow stronger, benefiting our nations and international cooperation for peace and development," says the president's message, which was made public by the Foreign Relations Secretariat and which concludes by wishing the Soviet people and Chernenko personally well.

Chernenko's message to De la Madrid reads: "The successful development of Soviet-Mexican relations is a convincing example of constructive cooperation between countries with different social systems. These relations, based as they are on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual benefits and respect, and nonintervention in internal affairs, are a reflection of the noble sentiments that the peoples of our two countries, located on different continents, have traditionally felt for each other.

"The Soviet Union and Mexico have been and are united by their sincere ambition for peace and by the recognition of each nation's right to self-determination and a free and independent development. The growing cooperation between our countries on the specific issues of strengthening peace and security among peoples, an end to the arms race and the elimination of the threat of war, are a practical contribution to the cause of straightening out the international situation. The Soviet Union is in favor of undertaking joint efforts to make this contribution an increasingly large one."

8743

CSO: 3248/747

OFFICIALS DRAFTING PLANS FOR RECEIVING DEPORTEES FROM U.S.

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jul 84 pp 1-A, 6-A, 18-A

[Article by Aurelio Ramos M.]

[Text] Governors from all the Mexican states bordering on the United States, along with officials from the department of government, in accordance with presidential instructions, have been pursuing the planning of precautionary measures in order to receive Mexican citizens deported from the United States under the Simpson-Mazzoli bill. They indicated that Tamaulipas may be one of the areas most affected by the return of undocumented persons.

Both state and federal officials expressed an interest in reestablishing bilateral negotiations between Mexico and the United States, since immigration problems have implications for both countries.

In addition, the members of the delegations and deputy delegations of migratory services in the states along the northern border have met to determine methods of coordinating actions to be undertaken for the reception, identification, and documentation of workers returning to our territory.

These precautionary measures are being planned by the Mexican government because of the possible passage of this bill, and also because of the administrative procedures prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service at the instigation of the Reagan administration, which will take effect on 1 August.

The governors and department of government officials discussed which border cities may be most affected, and calculated the pace required for federal and state actions in order to ensure an orderly and safe return of undocumented persons, so that the socioeconomic life of the border areas may feel the least impact possible.

They spoke of the procedures to be used in the consular services in order to verify the Mexican nationality of the deported persons. Specifically, they said that it is necessary to create an extremely accurate registry of Mexicans returning and of those engaging in productive activities both in the border areas and in their places of origin.

During the committee session held in the department of government, the officials also spoke of the actions that will be taken, so that the deportees will receive essential public services enabling them to return in conditions of safety and social protection. These actions will be coordinated on a state and federal level.

They said that Tamaulipas, where there are a number of border crossings and where the boundary with the United States is a long one, may be one of the most severely impacted areas, if the Simpson-Mazzoli bill passes.

Other states that do not have such a long border may be able to regulate better the influx of undocumented persons returning home. A substantial number of these persons are expected to seek jobs in the border states.

The government officials said that northeastern Mexico fortunately has a great potential for development, evidenced by the fact that it serves as a fundamental support for agricultural, livestock, and industrial development, not only in the region, but also on a national basis.

They also said that it would be wise to make use of the experience and skills of the Mexicans who have worked abroad, and for that reason their return, spurred by the Simpson-Mazzoli bill, may actually provide an exceptional opportunity for Mexico.

In the meeting of the migratory services delegates, they also established reception places, identification requirements, and documentation methods for persons returning to Mexico. In addition, they calculated the numerical capacity which each state could handle, reported the department of government.

7679
CSO: 3248/730

PSUM DEPUTIES OWE PARTY OVER TEN MILLION PESOS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 29 Jul 84 'Metropoli' Suppl. p 8

[Article by Angel Aguilar Perez]

[Excerpt] Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) Federal Deputies Edmundo Jardon Arzate, Raul Rea Carbajal, Florentino Jaimes, Daniel Sanchez Perez and Pedro Bonilla owe the Central Committee the considerable sum of over 10 million pesos for stipends (salaries) they have received from the Chamber.

This was revealed by the secretary general of the PSUM Committee in the Federal District, Deputy Ivan Garcia Solis, moments before opening the session of the PSUM Gustavo A. Madero Delegational Congress.

It is well known that the problem of stipends with these five deputies came up last year, when they withdrew their respective proxies from the Central Committee, which was collecting the corresponding stipends from PSUM legislators.

According to the facts presented by Ivan Garcia at the meeting of the Gustavo A. Madera Delegation, the situation is as follows:

"Edmundo Jardon Arzate reported that he has collected all stipends in advance. He offers to pay 1 million pesos at the end of December 1984, and would pay the rest in monthly payments to begin in 2 years. His current debt amounts to 2.038 million pesos, and by the end of his term as deputy it will be approximately 5.638 million pesos.

"Raul Rea Carbajal has returned the proxy, and his stipend for July (of this year) has already been collected. His debt to the PSUM is 698,000 pesos.

"Florentino Jaimes turned in his proxy, but because the Political Committee did not accept his proposal to give 55,000 pesos a month to three comrades who help him in his work in Guerrero, the deputy once again collected his July stipend. His debt at present totals 2.287 million pesos.

"Daniel Sanchez Perez reported that he had mailed his proxy to the finance secretary (of the PSUM Central Committee). It has not been received as of this date. His debt amounts to 3.612 million pesos.

"Pedro Bonilla Diaz de la Vega: No information has been received about his talk with Salvador O'Connors in which they discussed the return of his proxy. Pedro Bonilla became disabled when he suffered a heart attack. His debt to the PSUM totals 2.287 million pesos."

The PSUM leader in the nation's capital indicated that this situation is very serious, considering that the party does not exist to serve the personal interests of those who hold public office. He said that the financial problems of the Central Committee are quite severe, to the extent that the agreement that two stipends for two deputies (his and Antonio Gershenson's) would be earmarked for the PSUM Central Committee in the Federal District, has not yet been finalized.

8926

CSO: 3248/750

CHIAPAS: SECESSIONIST'S PSUM AFFILIATION DENIED

Mexico City ASI ES in Spanish No 113, 20 Jul 84 p 10

[Article by Carlos Escalante]

[Excerpt] In the rich region of Chiapas called Soconusco, near Tapachula, a group of landholders and businessmen has begun to reject the old reactionary idea of making that area another federated entity, that is, the 33rd state.

The State Committee of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) in Chiapas has declared that it is firmly opposed to separatism and the fragmentation of national territory, which was already severed in the north when the United States made its land grab of 1847. The PSUM of Chiapas also disassociated itself from Alonso Rodriguez Gamboa, who has been participating in the separatist group in the name of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico. That individual is not a member of the PSUM, nor did he belong to any of the organizations that joined to form the PSUM. This deception is a vulgar provocation to try to discredit the PSUM.

The solution to Soconusco's problems does not lie in making the region another federated entity, because the root of the region's problems cannot be traced to a lack of direct relations with the political center of Mexico. These attempts at separatism correspond to an erroneous and simplistic view of the functioning of the state apparatus and the mechanisms of government. If that were the problem, the solution could be found easily by promoting the emergence of as many federated entities as there are economic and political power groups in the country.

What these separatist skirmishes accomplish—in addition to the often successful extortion by the federal government on projects, subsidies and credits—is an inter-bourgeoisie dispute for power over the same space.

8926

CS0: 3248/750

CENSUS OFFICIAL SUMMARY INCLUDES REPORTING ON INCOME, HOUSING

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No. 405, 6 Aug 84 pp 28-30

[Article by Gerardo Galarza]

[Text] Recognized as an "instrument of government," the final results of the 10th General Census of Population and Housing of 1980, released more than 2 years late, are an official X-ray which reveals that the country is not as healthy as some claim. They also call into question many of the government's assertions.

One example suffices to begin with: In 1980, 19.6 percent of the work force received no income, and 25.3 percent received less than the average general minimum wage for that year.

The 10th Census, for which the Secretariat of Planning and Budget (SPP) is responsible, was conducted on 4 June 1980 after 2 years of preparation. Officially, the final results were supposed to be released between October 1981 and April 1982. More than 1.5 million people participated in the census, most of them at no pay, and its initial budget was 1.035 billion pesos.

Some reasons for the delay in publishing the results were disorganization, red tape, the discharge and replacement of specialized personnel, the dispersion and disorganization of the working groups (PROCESO 324), and even the change of government, which led to the departure of officials in charge of the work.

Finally, last 10 July the final results were released. They reveal the country's sociodemographic situation before the crisis erupted. Despite that, say specialists, the information provided can not be considered untimely or obsolete, because it reflects the country's status at a given moment.

Obviously, they say, this does not justify the delay. It would have been ideal to release the data on the specified dates, since government planning is based on these figures and statistics, and without them projections must be made.

"We are a stronger country," stated Secretary of Planning and Budget Carlos Salinas de Gortari upon releasing the final results of the 10th Census. One

example he cited to back up his assertion was that in 1980, 17 percent of the national population was illiterate, compared to 26 percent in 1970, according to him.

Nonetheless, according to the official data of the 1970 and 1980 censuses, that comparison is inaccurate. In 1970 the census revealed--and this information is cited by the National Population Council in its publications--that 23.8 percent of the population 10 years and older was illiterate. Now, the 1980 census indicates that 17 percent of the population 15 years and older is illiterate. Thus, in 1980 the sample in question was smaller than that 10 years earlier.

On 4 June 1980, the national territory was occupied by 66,846,833 inhabitants, of whom 42.9 percent (28,726,174) were under the age of 15. The National Population Council's projection for 1984 is 76.8 million inhabitants.

The total population was distributed among 125,300 localities, of which 62.8 percent (78,806) had between 1 and 99 inhabitants each. In addition, there were 31,054 localities with between 100 and 499 inhabitants; and 8,473 with 500 to 999. Thus, there were 118,333 small localities (94.4 percent) with fewer than 1,000 residents, where obviously public services are at least insufficient, if not non-existent. A total of 15,329,762 people were found to be in this situation, which means 22.9 percent of the national population.

In contrast, 6,827,792 Mexicans (10.2 percent) lived in five localities (0.004 percent) with a million inhabitants or more (two delegations of the Federal District, Guadalajara, Monterrey and Nezahualcoyotl).

The national population 15 years and older reached 37,927,410 people. Of them, 6,451,740 (17 percent) were illiterate. This condition is defined by the Census as "the situation of people with regard to their aptitude for reading and writing a message."

In absolute terms, the areas with the greatest number of illiterates were: Veracruz (721,552), Mexico City (569,298), Puebla (495,095), Oaxaca (478,500), Chiapas (428,604), Guerrero (408,268), Michoacan (396,644), Guanajuato (392,761) and the Federal District (326,809).

In relative terms there are three federated entities that have double the national percentage of illiteracy: in Chiapas, 37.9 percent of the population over 15 is illiterate; in other words, nearly 4 out of every 10 Chiapans do not know how to read or write. In Oaxaca the percentage is 35.9, in Guerrero 35.5.

In addition, 13 percent of the population 6 years and older (7,292,899 out of 55,415,806) had received no schooling. In contrast, only 24,631 people (0.04 percent) had taken some training course without primary education.

The grade-school-aged population (6 to 14 years) reached 17,295,147. Of them, 4,700,603 children were not attending primary school; 2,336,384 had finished school, while the remaining half were not attending for various reasons: 177,043 because the school did not offer all the primary grades; 106,910

because the school was too far away or non-existent; 54,429 because of overcrowding; 283,772 (16.4 percent) because the children worked or helped their families; 123,313 because of learning disabilities; and 1,612,752 for "other reasons" not specified by the census.

According to the 1980 Census, in that year the workforce totaled 22,066,084 Mexicans, defined as "the population 12 years and older which in the week of 16 May to 1 June (1980) were in one of the following situations: had worked, had not worked but were employed, or had not worked but sought work." Thus, children were officially included in that definition, despite the constitutional prohibition of child labor.

In 1980, then, there were 797,983 children 12 to 14 years of age who were considered to be part of the national workforce. The majority of them (282,125) worked in agriculture, livestock, hunting, forestry or fishing.

Although the census does not give a specific figure on the number of unemployed workers, it states that 4,344,084 Mexicans in the labor force (19.6 percent) did not receive any monthly income. In contrast, 2 percent (451,217) of that population received monthly incomes of 22,171 pesos or more (the highest figure considered by the census. At that time, the average monthly minimum wage for the country was 4,098.60 pesos.

In addition, 5,590,861 members of the workforce (25.3 percent) received monthly incomes below the minimum wage: 663,523 Mexicans earned from 1 to 590 pesos a month; 924,692 members of the labor force obtained 591 to 1,080 pesos a month; 1,174,108 earned 1,081 to 1,970 pesos; and 2,828,538 received monthly incomes of 1,971 to 3,610 pesos.

The next group on the monthly income scale earned between 3,611 pesos per month (still below the minimum) and 6,610 pesos, and it comprised 4,557,499 Mexicans.

Broken down by job position, the labor force was distributed as follows: 959,100 people were business owners or employers; 9,766,551 were white- or blue-collar workers or laborers; 245,321 were members of a production cooperative; 4,754,271 were self-employed; 1,464,996 were non-remunerated workers ("a person who did not receive any income in exchange for his work," says the census); another 4,751,494 Mexicans did not specify their job position, and 124,391 were unemployed and had never worked.

The principal occupation of the Mexican labor force continues to be in agriculture: in 1980, there were 5,417,126 farmers, not including agricultural and livestock administrative workers, agricultural foremen or agricultural machinery operators. There were also 913,558 domestic workers (who received a wage in exchange for their work in private homes).

Other statistically important activities were: craftsmen and blue-collar workers, 4,213,980; sales clerks, 1,508,658; and office workers, 1,983,208.

On the other hand, there were only 390,817 professionals and 509,483 technicians and specialists.

Another indicator of Mexico's social inequality is the chapter of the census devoted to housing.

In 1980, there were 12,142,555 housing units in which 66,846,833 Mexicans lived, for an average of 5.5 persons per dwelling. In 1970, according to that year's census, the average was 5.8 persons per dwelling.

Of the total number of housing units (12,174,609), 3,615,774 had a single room, and of the latter, 378,085 were occupied by 9 or more persons. Of the single-room dwellings, 234,111 were occupied by 8 people; 318,297 by 7 people; 403,952 by 6 occupants; 486,274 by 5 occupants; 551,719 by 4; 523,996 by 3; 446,834 by 2; and 272,536 single room dwellings with one occupant.

In contrast, there were 77,589 homes with 9 or more rooms. Of them, 2,146 housed a single occupant; 4,011 housed 2; 5,370 housed 3; 7,441 housed 4; 9,349 housed 5; 10,010 housed 6; 9,696 housed 7; 7,788 housed 8; and 21,778 housed 9 or more occupants.

In addition, of the total number of dwellings, 3,463,838 had 2 rooms; 2,128,838 had 3 rooms; 1,318,526 had 4; 577,129 had 5; 278,481 had 6; 139,422 had 7; and 72,268 had 8 rooms.

Of the 12,074,609 housing units that existed in 1980, 1,397,483 had cardboard roofs; 1,203,836 had palm, shingle or wood roofs; 2,025,433 had asbestos sheet or metal roofs; 1,618,174 had tile roofs; and 5,314,387 had concrete slab roofs, a brick vault or a flat roof with brick and beams. The total number of units with roofs made of materials other than those listed here was 6,244,928. The remainder had roofs of "unspecified" materials (289,218) or "other materials" (226,096).

Of the total number of dwellings, 8,533,164 had running water: 6,022,847 had it within the house; 1,923,847 had it within the building in which the unit was located; 586,834 had it available at a public faucet; and 3,434,416 units had no running water under any of the above conditions. Another 107,029 units had unspecified sources of water.

With regard to electricity, 9,037,717 homes had it, while 2,630,288 did not enjoy this source of power and 406,604 were "unspecified."

These are some of the "symptoms" revealed by the official sociodemographic X-ray of the 10th General Census of Population and Housing of 1980, in its "general abbreviated summary" published by the SPP. That summary contains just "25 tables with the most significant data."

8926

CSO: 3248/750

BRIEFS

FACTORS RETARDING SONORA INDUSTRY--Hermosillo, Sonora, 25 July. A lack of adequate housing and a shortage of municipal services have slowed down the growth of the finishing industries located in the area bordering Arizona, said the director of labor and social welfare, Raul Valderrain Otero. He added that such problems have prevented the hiring of 5,100 people from April of this year to the present time, with a supply of 6,500 jobs available. Because of these limitations, he said, the state office of employment has sent barely 900 workers to fill 3,000 jobs available in Nogales, and only 500 to fill 5,000 jobs available in Agua Prieta. This suggests that the finishing industries should move to other parts of the state, possibly to Hermosillo and Ciudad Obregon. Nonetheless, Valderrain said that once the Institute for Urban and Rural Development and the National Institute for the Development of Workers Housing have completed a series of projects they are undertaking in Nogales and Agua Prieta, more people could be sent from the interior of the state to work in the finishing industries located in these towns. One of the principal requirements set by the state office of employment for applications filed by persons interested in working in the finishing industries is that they must have definite lodging available, since there is a very severe housing shortage. Finally, the official said that in order to help to resolve the problem of the shortage of skilled labor, this agency will sponsor periodic training and instruction courses, especially for industrial and service jobs, where there are jobs available. [Text]
[Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 26 Jul 84 p 16-D] 7679

TLAXCALAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY OPERATION--Tlaxcala, Tlax, 23 July. The local textile industry is now operating at 50 percent of capacity, because of constant cuts in the electricity supply in the Santa Ana-Tlaxcala-Panzacola industrial corridor. In some plants production had already been reduced, as there have been problems with surplus production and a limited market for these products. The leader of the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants in the area, Eliseo Vazquez Valdes, said that businesses in the area are losing hundreds of millions of

pesos; this is also causing high levels of unemployment. Because of these constant blackouts lasting 2 to 3 hours, the industrial plant has halted its shifts three and four, laying off approximately 1,200 workers. Vazquez Valdes said that at times the power outages have lasted almost all day, idling the workers, and creating unnecessary overhead costs for businesses. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Jul 84 p 12-D] 7679

CRITICISMS BY TABASCO BISHOP--Villahermosa, Tabasco, 20 Jul--The bishop of Tabasco, Rafael Garcia Gonzalez, has stated that the government has inordinately increased the concentration of power, which inhibits the involvement of the citizenry in politics by fostering apathy and neglect in the fulfillment of their civic responsibilities. The bishop indicated that the economic crisis is evidence that our development and modernization model no longer works. He agreed to an interview despite cautioning that by discussing politics, "I will be accused of violating the constitution, but we cannot remain blind and deaf in the face of this situation." He commented that the reason for our cultural crisis is that education is run by economic and political interests and is not aimed at developing an awareness of freedom and solidarity as values. He felt that government leaders were making well-intentioned efforts to resolve our nation's problems and he even called on people to encourage them, but he asserted that "fundamental and structural changes are needed even in the constitution itself." Garcia Gonzalez noted that even though it has been said that "we are a tolerant church, we have not ceased and we will not cease, for that reason, to be involved in our people's history." He remarked that the true legal status of all individuals and institutions ought to be recognized, as well as their right to participate in the country's social and political life, because otherwise we cannot call this a democracy. Regarding corruption, the bishop said that it is giving rise to certain pathological social conditions that could worsen into widespread discontent, disillusionment, frustration and mistrust of government officials, employers, political parties and unions. He noted that people cannot tell where the political party ends and where the government begins. He also stated that although the right to dissent and to express differing points of view is officially proclaimed, "people who do so are persecuted in the street." [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 21 Jul 84 p 31-A] 8743

SOCONUSCO STATEHOOD PETITION PRESENTED--The chairman of the Great Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, Humberto Lugo Gil, has received a petition from representatives of 14 municipalities in the state of Chiapas, asking that the state of Soconusco be created. This petition states that this region has sufficient human and natural resources to become federative entity number 33. Making up the delegation were: members of the United Front

for the Sovereignty of Soconusco; Angel Aguilar, delegate from the PSD [Social Democratic Party]; Augusto Villarreal, director of the daily paper EL SUR DE MEXICO; Alonso Rodriguez Gamboa, president of the Journalists Club of Tapachula; and Ernesto Sanchez Aguilar, secretary general of the PSD. They told Lugo Gil that this petition is based on Article 73, Section III of the Constitution, and that the Huixtla Charter has already been signed. This charter contains the agreement of the people of Soconusco to pursue their goals and obtain the legal instruments to conduct an independent political and economic life. Their actions have resulted from the feeling that this region has been overlooked by both the Chiapan and federal governments. They feel that by taking charge of their own resources, they will be able to move forward and boost their economic, political, and social development, thus helping the people of the region. [Text]
[Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Jul 84 pp 5-A, 22-A] 7679

CSO: 3248/730

RAMIREZ MERCADO ON NATION'S DIFFICULTIES, ACHIEVEMENTS

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 29, 20 Jul 84 pp 64-65

[Report on interview with Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a member of the National Reconstruction Government Junta, by PRENSA LATINA correspondent Manuel Guerrero: "Nicaragua: On the Fifth Anniversary"; date and place not given]

[Text] Subjected to sustained American aggression that is manifested in the military and economic sectors, Nicaragua has reached the fifth anniversary of the victory of the Sandinist People's Revolution.

During most of this 5-year period that Central American nation has faced the incessant persecution of President Ronald Reagan's administration, which makes use of economic resources approved by the Congress and the funds of the shadowy Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)]

Direct damages alone produced by armed aggression, the spearhead of which is thousands of ex-Somocista guardsmen regrouped in Honduras by the CIA, accounted for — from December 1981 to May 1984 — some \$300 million.

More eloquent than a journalistic stocktaking, we believed it appropriate to have the balance sheet for 5 years of revolutionary effort be drawn up by Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a founding member of the government junta and a man who actively participated in the struggle against Somocista tyranny.

This distinguished intellectual headed the Group of Twelve, composed of well-known Nicaraguans, which played an important role in negotiations, frustrating the interventionist maneuvers of the American government.

"We believe that in the field of politics the most important achievement of the revolution has been the consolidation of national independence in the face of imperialist aggression and the exercise of U.S. influence to regain this country which it lost once and for all with the revolutionary victory," he said in answer to our first question.

"For us," he went on, "the revolution has afforded us an opportunity to give the country a true national image, to consolidate our independence and sovereignty, and it is this that opens the possibility of an internal transformation in Nicaragua, since any program of socialist change would be impossible for us under imperialist domination."

Ramirez pointed out that this recovery of national independence "has enabled us to initiate a profound process of social transformations involving a change in the power structure in this nation."

He emphasized the institution of a people's government based fundamentally on the masses and the fact that, while a system involving a mixed economy and political pluralism is being established, it is the organized population that is leading the country toward a new horizon of changes that are also reflected in the economic domain.

The tense Nicaraguan-American relations were discussed by this national leader, who stressed the fact that they have always been unique and "that only the overall situation is different."

"Before, they were unique because Nicaragua was an appendage of the United States in the economic, political and social domains... and now the relation is unique, but for other reasons....," he said.

He added that Washington wants to regain the power it has lost and to achieve this it is relying "on a complex web of aggressions and aggressive attitudes that include a legal blessing, since the funds used to practice aggression against us are contributed by the Congress...."

Difficulties

The development of this Central American country of 3 million inhabitants has also been affected by the drop in the prices of coffee, cotton, sugar, meat and the other products it exports.

Ramirez estimates that, due to the deterioration in trade terms alone, they have lost over \$400 million here since the revolutionary victory, especially since 1981.

The raw materials and oil that Nicaragua has to secure and the growing amount it has had to pay to service the foreign debt left behind by the Somocista tyranny, estimated at \$1.7 billion, have also been costing it more and more.

This author of an excellent biography of Gen Augusto C. Sandino, the father of the Nicaraguan Revolution, enumerated other factors that affect the difficult national economic situation and he revealed that the foreign debt amounts to some \$2.7 billion, when we add up the goods and services contracted for in 5 years time.

A graphic illustration of the above is the fact that Nicaragua had an international trade deficit of \$375.6 million in 1983 due to exports amounting to \$431 million and imports amounting to \$806 million.

This negative balance was not caused by a drop in production of the chief export items, but for the reasons noted.

For coffee, the chief producer of foreign exchange, there was a record harvest of 1.4 million quintals in 1983, sales of which brought in \$153 million.

Ramirez noted that the revolutionary government has successfully concluded new agreements with private creditor banks to pay off the old debt and with the Central American countries, with which the country has a large deficit balance.

He pointed out that this was necessary because otherwise Nicaragua would have had to pay no less than \$700 million in 1984 for amortization and interest payments on principal alone, whereas its exports only amount to less than \$500 million.

Added to this tragic picture is the fact that it is extremely difficult not only for his country, but for any country, to obtain liquid assets on the financial market, which is why they have laid emphasis on bilateral relations.

He explained that in this way they are acquiring loans from European and Latin American countries for the purchase of capital goods, chiefly certain raw materials and products, but not liquid assets.

Achievements

Despite all the difficulties, Nicaragua can point to demonstrable achievements during the revolutionary era which add up to over a million students at the different educational levels, a third of the country's population.

The total eradication of polio during the past 2 years and a decrease in other diseases in conjunction with the construction of hospitals and health centers also constitute significant advances.

In the farm sector, through a radical agrarian reform program, they have allocated 2.1 million hectares, 37.5 percent of the country's entire farmland, 980,000 of which have been turned over to cooperatives and individual farmers and the rest is being farmed by the state enterprises.

The topic of the elections to be held next 4 November was discussed by Ramirez, for whom this is no more than the culmination of a democratic process that has been evolving during the course of these 5 years.

As part of the exercise in democracy, he emphasized the political, military and social duties and popular participation in vaccination campaigns, neighborhood cleanups, revolutionary vigilance and the defense of the country.

"We don't feel that elections that have no connection with the whole people's democratic process would serve any purpose, rather that elections complement the whole daily exercise... as the country has lived through it these past 5 years," he expressed his opinion.

Ramirez stated that he would not find it strange if certain rightist parties were to abstain from participating in the elections for president, vice president and a National Assembly of 90 members that would have to approve a new constitution during its first 2 years.

However, he said, "if they view this in the proper perspective, they must realize that not participating in the elections would mean political suicide" and "they would be committing hara kiri by not engaging in the electoral process out of concern for the interests of their American boss."

After expressing his certainty that some parties would participate in the elections, the first ones since the revolutionary victory, he announced that the Sandinist Front would participate because it feels that they will represent a national referendum.

This member of the Sandinist Assembly, the advisory organ of the national leadership of the Sandinist Front, lashed out at the parties of the Right, pointing out that they have had no social support base even though "they are living under the pluralist policy of the revolution."

Reagan's Reelection

At another point in the interview he said that he felt that a second term for current American President Ronald Reagan would impose great problems on mankind, to say nothing of the case of Central America.

"We do not believe that the world can go on supporting the kind of tension the United States has unleashed with the nuclear arms race, the installation of new missiles (572) in Western Europe and the focal points of tension it is trying to create in the Middle East, South Africa and Central America," he warned.

As regards the outlook for political solutions to the Central American conflicts, Ramirez said that the biggest negative factor is the United States' exploitation of Honduras in its plans for aggression.

He declared that Reagan is using Honduras not only as a base for aggression against Nicaragua, but that he has turned it into "a veritable aircraft carrier in the heart of Central America for launching attacks on Guatemala and El Salvador at any moment."

Commenting on Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez' departure from the position of chief of staff of the Honduran Armed Forces, he expressed the hope that the new military leadership would profoundly consider the sad role the United States has imposed on the country.

Ramirez further noted that the Sandinist government is making daily efforts to improve relations with Costa Rica, its southern neighbor, where the so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) operates.

He said that President Luis Alberto Monge has hopes that the policy of neutrality he has proclaimed will be respected, "but there are elements in Costa Rica that are working against this policy's really having the effects it ought to have."

"We are convinced," he noted, "that, as long as the counterrevolutionary group the CIA has along the length of the border are here, tension factors will continue to exist."

And lastly, this leader assessed international solidarity with the Sandinist process, saying that it has been an important element in maintaining the image of the revolution and in maintaining its forces.

He mentioned the support provided by the socialist community, the Nonaligned Countries Movement, Western Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa.

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CSO: 3248/752

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ANNOUNCES FDUN PLATFORM

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Aug 84 p A-4

[Text] The National Unity Democratic Front (FDUN), headed by (Ret) General Francisco Morales Bermudez, advocates the broadest freedom of expression, it has been announced through the mass media.

This was emphasized by Morales yesterday at a press conference during which he publicly presented the message and political program of that front, which had been submitted to the various national sectors for consideration.

Freedom of Expression

In expanding on the concept of freedom of expression as contained in that program, the front expresses the view that it is an effective medium for a massive educational and cultural campaign in defense of civic, ethical and moral values.

The presidential candidate, who announced the "government program" of his party for 15 November, said in answer to questions that his group is neither large nor small, but that it will be the people who show its strength in the April 1985 elections.

With regard to terrorism, he expressed the view that it is necessary to combat it with all the weight of the armed forces, since this is a war which seditious forces began. However, parallel to this, measures of a socio-economic nature should be adopted to offset the effects of this problem.

Legislative Branch

On the subject of the legislature, he said that his group proposes a unicameral congress, because of the inefficiency again revealed by the system in effect. He also confirmed the intention to sponsor a social congress, with representation for all sectors of the nation.

Morales expressed his objection to the "nondeliberative" nature of the armed forces according to the constitution, and he said that the military, through their representatives, participate in national defense and other sectors, including the oil issue.

Concerning the "Oropesa case," after energetically protesting against this tragic event and its authors, he expressed the view that the most energetic investigation should be pursued. However he said that the possible resignation of the Minister of Interior "would not solve anything."

Summit Meeting

Concerning the "summit meeting" of party leaders recently held, he expressed the view that a stage in which all parties act "as Peruvian democracy demands" should be encouraged.

In conclusion he said that the "preferential vote" was a clarion call issued, paradoxically, by "the previous government in fact, as a contribution to democracy, which we are now all enjoying and respecting."

Present at the press conference in addition to Morales were Jose de la Puente Radbill, Francisco Sanchez Moreno, Oscar Molina Pallochua, Francisco Mariategui, Piero Pierantoni, Carmen Leguia, Rosa Muguerza and Edmundo Arana.

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CSO: 3348/548

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES UN, L.A.

Lima UNIDAD in Spanish 9 Aug 84 pp 14-15

[Interview with Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the USSR Yuriy Fokin; date and place not given]

[Text] Within the context of the relations between Peru and the Soviet Union, the excellent practice of mutual consultations about the international situation and its development has been established. Such consultations take place each year just prior to the initiation of the work of the UN General Assembly. A few days ago, for the purpose of carrying out these tasks, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the USSR Yuriy Fokin visited our country as the representative of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. Our weekly had the privilege of talking with him about the delicate world situation, and because of the importance of Ambassador Fokin's opinions, we are pleased to report them for our readers.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, how does the Soviet government view the holding of this coming General Assembly of the United Nations?

[Answer] We always regard the work of the coming sessions of the UN General Assembly as very important, and we always assign the greatest importance to them.

As you know, the UN was established as the result of the great victory over fascism in World War II. And in the course of these 40 years, the United Nations has played a very important role in the struggle for peace throughout the world.

In the coming year, we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the triumph over fascism, and a little later, in the autumn, the 40th anniversary of the creation of the UN, as well.

Our approach to any future period of sessions is the same. It is as follows: we ask in what way the United Nations can carry out its role and pursue its activity designed to defend peace throughout the world and to improve the international situation. The Soviet Union always tries to place the hottest and most urgent issues in the contemporary international situation at the center of the discussions at the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and all of the participating nations, which now total 159. We try to submit the most important issues for the consideration of the General

Assembly. In addition, we believe that each UN General Assembly session can offer the participating states an opportunity to discuss international problems.

Need for Dialogue

In recent times there has been much talk about the need for dialogue, dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States, among the Warsaw Pact nations and the members of NATO, and in the future among other nations.

There is an attempt to persuade the Soviet Union of the need for dialogue. Our answer is that there is no need to convince us of the usefulness of dialogue, for we have always favored it, and we believe that it was precisely thanks to the efforts of the Soviet Union and its peaceful international policy that it was possible to bring about positive changes in the international situation in the 1970s. The credit is not due exclusively to the Soviet Union, for the actions pursued by our friends, the socialist countries, are extremely important as well. Also of great importance is the activity of the countries participating in the Nonaligned Movement.

In addition, there are powerful forces in the world, the forces which love peace, and they are contributing to the establishment of the conditions which can prevent the outbreak of war and can guarantee peace in the world. But we have said that we will not accept dialogue for its own sake. We do not need just any dialogue, but rather constructive and honorable dialogue. We stress this because in recent years, the imperialist forces have tried to use the symbols of dialogue for bad purposes.

Our peace initiatives have been met with proposals the content of which worked toward their destruction. This means that these proposals did not contain a basis for agreement. For this reason we say in the UN that cooperation should be constructive and dialogue should be honorable. For this reason the Soviet Union is prepared to work on behalf of peace and international security. These interests coincide with the interests of the world, regardless of the state in which the people live, whether socialist or capitalist or in the countries of the Third World.

At the coming General Assembly session, the Soviet Union will adopt positions which will reflect our concern and worry about the current international situation, and we hope that these positions will be supported by all of the participating countries.

I must note, with profound satisfaction, that the Peruvian delegations to the General Assembly sessions have supported our initiatives in this respect in recent years.

The Problem of Atomic War

[Question] What are the initiatives in defense of peace which the Soviet government will bring to this 39th Assembly?

[Answer] It is a bit difficult for me to answer your question precisely now, because we are still continuing to make our preparations for the coming General Assembly session. This process of preparation has not yet been completed. We are merely working. But I can list some three or four Soviet initiatives which have been put forth in recent years and which reflect our approach to the international situation. These proposals, like others, are now the main thread in the entire international situation. We begin with the greatest, most urgent and most acute problem, that of the outbreak of atomic warfare and the possible use of atomic weapons.

The Soviet Union has made repeated statements in this connection in the course of recent years. The main goal of these initiatives is as follows:

First, to put an end to the continuing development of the armaments race, next, to prohibit nuclear weapons, and then to eliminate them.

We too have been concerned about the other side of the coin with regard to this problem, which is its political-moral implications. This was the subject of the proposal on the norms of conduct among the nuclear nations for those states which have nuclear weapons. This proposal was put forth this same year in one of the reports by the secretary general of our party, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Concrete Peace Proposal

But I would like to tell you now about a Soviet proposal which constitutes a unilateral obligation on the part of the Soviet Union, but this obligation is rather important. It is the proposal which was launched within the framework of the UN in the report by Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Gromyko in one of the last General Assembly sessions.

It involves our commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

If other nuclear nations come out in favor of this proposal, and also make the same commitment, this will mean, in the political-moral sense, a prohibition on the use of nuclear weapons.

We are also prepared to include commitments by the nuclear nations in an international agreement with binding force. But several months have now passed and there has been no progress in this direction. We find ourselves in the same situation. The nuclear nations have gained nothing in this respect. And when they speak, the sense of their statements is as follows: acceptance of the Soviet proposal by the nuclear nations would mean stifling the basis of the concept of deterrence, which is the foundation of the strategy of the NATO member nations.

This means that the NATO member nations--the United States, England and France--want to have their hands free to launch nuclear war and use nuclear weapons. You know that we made similar proposals at the Stockholm conference, which is now studying the problems of measures of confidence and security in Europe.

We put forth this proposal at the conference as one which could in the best sense create an atmosphere of confidence among the Warsaw Pact and NATO member nations.

The Militarization of Space

In recent years, a new threat to peace in the world, the space threat, has emerged. The militarization of cosmic space is beginning. This will have long-range consequences of the greatest importance to the international situation and to peace in the world.

We can understand the full depth and importance of these consequences, but I am persuaded that from today's positions, we cannot foresee all of the consequences of this armaments race. We launched some very important proposals at a UN General Assembly session with a view to arresting the new spiral in the armaments race, in cosmic space in this case. These proposals were considered by the General Assembly and approved by the overwhelming majority of the votes of the nations. And they were presented to the Geneva conference for consideration, which means that it was a question of establishing an international commission on this problem.

We also decided to act on a bilateral basis, and we proposed to the United States that negotiations begin with a view to an agreement on the nonmilitarization of space. To this end some mobilizations are being organized in Vienna for September of this year. This proposal was set forth in the statement issued by the Soviet government on 29 June of this year, but the response of the United States to this proposal was unjust maneuvers. They showed that the United States and the military-industrial complex in that country lack the slightest desire to begin such talks. Now once again the imperialists have shown their true face.

It would take us all day simply to list all of the responses put forth by the Soviet diplomatic sector with a view to safeguarding peace in the world. Therefore I will limit myself solely to one more initiative having to do with a very important problem. Some days ago, the proposal of the Soviet Union on measures for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East was published. I repeat that this proposal was made public, and it is not necessary to go over it in detail. It contains the principles for peaceful settlement. Limiting ourselves to the means, it is a question of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, clearly requiring these participants to include the Palestine Liberation Organization, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine, in the organization of this settlement.

The role of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement in the Middle East, and the role of the Security Council, as well as other elements which are very important to the very critical situation there, are set forth.

Right of the Peoples To Determine Their Fate

[Question] How does the Soviet government view the development of the situation in Central America and the Caribbean?

[Answer] We say that on this very delicate matter which is tending to become more acute, the Soviet Union takes a position which, chemically speaking, is very pure. We condemn the policy of the imperialist circles designed to liquidate all of the national regimes which are not good for the United States or do not suit it.

This threat to the peoples and the nations of Central America by the United States can affect any Central American country. We are now contemplating the undeclared war against the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua, and the economic and political pressure of another nature against Cuba. Who will it be tomorrow and who will be next seem to be legitimate questions.

The United States continues to regard Latin America in general and Central America in particular as its own back yard. The Americans think that they have the right to determine what regimes have a right to survive in these Central American countries and which do not. We believe that this is a typically imperialist policy.

The Soviet Union provides its total support to any political, diplomatic or moral effort designed to achieve the settlement of the critical situation in Central America through negotiation. Or in other words, by peaceful means. The positions of Nicaragua and Cuba have our full support. We also support all of the efforts of the Contadora Group with a view to achieving a peaceful settlement in Central America. We see and value the efforts undertaken by the nations among the nonaligned countries. We also believe that the UN has a very important role to play in the settlement of this problem, and we also see and support the contributions of all the Latin American countries to the peaceful efforts to settle the situation in Latin America. This is our position, but I would like to make one more comment. Sometimes we may see efforts attempting to present the struggle in Central America as a part of the problem of East-West confrontation. This is a false approach. The main goal of these efforts is to deceive the people who still do not see the principal roots of this critical situation in Central America, and also in Latin America in general.

I would also like to emphasize that all the propaganda facilities of the United States are working 24 hours a day to impose this false approach to the problem on the public in Latin America. If we undertake an analysis of the main causes of the difficult situation in Central America, the roots can be seen to lie in the poverty of the Central American people and in the very hard social, economic and political situation wherein the peoples have no economic, social or political rights, and are now being exhausted by imperialist exploitation. Everyone knows of our support of the people of Nicaragua and Cuba. We Soviets view the struggle of the Sandinist revolution with admiration and recognize its right to exist, and I believe that this problem will come up in the coming General Assembly sessions. What positions the Soviet Union will adopt and what side of the barricades we are on are clear.

Fifteen Fruitful Years

[Question] Mr Ambassador, what is your view of the importance of the relations between our country and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] The relations between the Soviet Union and Peru now date back 15 years. We believe that in this 15-year period, Soviet-Peruvian relations have developed considerably. This has to do with political contacts between our two countries, and also rather extensive economic cooperation between them. It also includes our cooperation in the cultural, educational and many other spheres.

You know that 1,000 Peruvian students have enrolled in courses in the Soviet Union. Many of them have now completed their studies and have returned to Peru and are working for the well-being of the Peruvian people.

We always seek new paths of cooperation, new channels for the relations between the Soviet Union and Peru.

I would like to cite just one example showing the objective nature of the Soviet approach to the development of Soviet-Peruvian relations. A short time ago we reached agreement to the effect that, with a view to the development of Soviet-Peruvian relations and cooperation in the economic sector, the Soviet Union would accept nontraditional Peruvian export products in exchange for our special services. Like any new field of cooperation, this one too had its difficult points, but we hope that the obligations of the Peruvian party will be met. During the negotiations, Peru indicated its gratitude to the Soviet Union for this decision to accept these products. We believe that this new type of economic cooperation between these two countries will contribute to the economic development of Peru, and to the improvement of the economic situation in the country.

In general, Soviet-Peruvian relations during the negotiations were described as the normal ones developing along the proper path. And as far as we know, this is a joint and mutual assessment of the current state of relations between the Soviet Union and Peru. We are ready and prepared for new steps in this sphere. We are trying to resolve each question as it develops. In particular, for example, Peru is studying the current proposals of the Soviet Union on the signing and the protocol for a cultural agreement, including the equivalency for scientific diplomas and degrees. We are also currently studying the question of confirming a consular commission which would contribute to the improvement of the life of Peruvians in the Soviet Union and Soviet citizens in Peru.

It is clear that we are prepared to continue any effort to make contact in the political sector. During the consultations, we have also invited a Peruvian delegation to visit Moscow in the summer of the coming year to discuss the same questions, but we are now preparing for the 40th period of General Assembly decisions. Our goal is very simple: we want to understand the Peruvian positions on international problems better. We want Peru to understand the position of the Soviet Union better. As a final consideration, I would like to point out that the discussions are developing in a very proper atmosphere, and we will also respond in the same way when the representatives of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry come to Moscow to continue these same discussions.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES NEGOTIATIONS FOR INDUSTRIAL CAPITAL

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Aug 84 p A-4

[Text] Minister of Industry Alvaro Becerra Sotero has announced that the government is negotiating with international bodies for labor capital lines in the amount of \$245 million to support domestic industry.

He said that already the first \$45 million of this amount have been approved and put to use, and it is hoped to make payments on no less than a thousand projects, in other words, covering all industrial sectors.

Becerra Sotero explained that the development bank has already placed 600 billion soles in 3,400 long-term operations and 6,500 short-term projects thus far this year.

He said that all of this is included within the measures approved by his sector and within the framework of the program for the economic recovery of the country which the government has put into effect and which is now in full swing.

He recalled that the provisions affected the commercial sector (nine in all), administration (seven) and taxes (six), apart from other immediate proposals which the legislative branch should shortly begin to study.

Among these latter, he listed the draft law on small businesses, that sponsoring the "Rostro Peruano" (Face of Peru) technology, regulation of the automotive fund, the National Guarantee Fund, the Institute for Foreign Trade and Integration, and the Industrial Development Program.

He said that the government has legislated for the future and that during the first 12 months of executive administration, a firm base will be established for the industrial development of the country, so that the new government can take over a sector in full growth.

He noted that recovery of the domestic market by domestic industry is necessary, along with the simultaneous strengthening of our capacity to compete on the Latin American market.

"And developmental credit is also needed, both to produce in the domestic sector and to export," he emphasized.

FISHERMEN SAY UNEMPLOYMENT DUE TO SOVIET ACTIVITY

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 21 Aug 84 p A-7

[Text] Maritime workers, who have been forced out with the authorization of Soviet vessels to operate along the Peruvian coast, have stated that there are at least 24 domestic fishing trawlers which are lying idle in the ports of Chimbote and Callao.

Idle Ships

While the Soviet vessels can engage in fishing with full guarantees in our territorial waters, many of the Peruvian ships are idle, said leaders of the Peruvian Federation of Craft Fishermen for Direct Human Consumption.

They came out against the agreement between the EPSEP [Public Enterprise for Fishing Services] and the Pacific fishing enterprise providing for the supply of frozen fish by Soviet vessels, and they said that more than 500 workers who could carry out this task are now unemployed.

They said that the 24 Peruvian fishing trawlers which are inoperative today were engaged in fishing all along the coast, but that due to the lack of suitable regulations to protect Peruvian shipowners, they had to abandon their activities.

Shipowners' Difficulties

They said that domestic shipowners face a series of difficulties, including the large sums required for operations permits and port services, as well as taxes, and also the problems in placing the product of trawling activities on the domestic market.

The fishermen's leaders said that the Peruvian worker is trained for trawling. "Despite this," they stated, "Peruvian fishermen are not allowed to work on board Soviet vessels, which have been operating with full guarantees and facilities for the past 2 years."

5157

CSO 3348/548

BRIEFS

FMI GOALS TERMED UNREACHABLE--"A summary of the fiscal situation rules out the possibility that Peru can achieve the budget goals set by the agreement with the International Monetary Fund," the Continental Bank analysis of the economic situation for the second quarter of 1984 asserts. The author of the work, the well-known Kenneth Levene, says, under the heading "The Economy Is Turning Around But There is Not Full Recovery Yet," that "the possibility of reducing the deficit coefficient for the gross domestic product from 12 percent in 1983 to 4.1 percent this year is denied by the serious nature of the factors typifying the present situation." "As things are currently developing, the country continues to be experiencing a depression." "Meanwhile, the expenditure column in the budget is under magnified pressure due to the impact inflation has on the wage increases granted by the government to its employees." [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Aug 84 p A-11] 5157

INTERNATIONAL FINANCING AIDS IRRIGATION--Arequipa, 17 August--Three banking institutions in Europe and the United States have offered financial support for the implementation of the Alto Tambo irrigation project in the province of Islay. This announcement was made by the well-known Tambo farmer Sixto Castro C., who said that the banks involved are Eorng in France, Wade Raim in the United States and Uralita in Spain, which will shortly dispatch representatives for the purpose mentioned. The project involves putting no less than 2,600 new hectares under irrigation and the improvement of another 2,000. The flow from the Tambo River will be used, since annually a large overflow from its channel is wasted. The pampas lie in the locality of Punta de Bombon, with immediate access to the Mollendo, Cocachacr and Arequipa highways. Castro said that the Ministry of Agriculture has authorized implementation of the project within the context of favorable norms. In order to save water and as a result of the experience acquired in Majes, the sprinkler system of irrigation will be used. If one of the offers from the foreign banks is accepted, the first harvests of wheat and the establishment of a new livestock breeding center will be achieved within 2 years. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Aug 84 p A-16] 5157

CSO: 3348/548

LABOR LEADERS RETURN HOME

[Editorial Report] A Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 29 August 1984 page 1 photo caption states that labor union leaders Fred van Russel of the Moederbond and Fred Derby of the C-47 have returned to Suriname from an "orientation visit to China and a working visit to the Netherlands." The caption also states that upon their return at Zanderij airport the officials said only that they were satisfied with their trip and that they would provide details later.

CSO: 3214/55

BRIEFS

FOOD SHORTAGE TALKS--(SNA)--Last week CIS [Central Import Company of Suriname] Director Cecil Guman held talks with supermarket owners at which supplies of basic foodstuffs were on the agenda. It has turned out that certain supermarkets do not have supplies of all these goods. Agreement was reached with the market owners allowing them to obtain these goods from CIS if they distribute them in timely fashion. For these owners a special time has been established at which they can pick up the goods at CIS. Director Guman expressed his opposition to waiting lines. The owners have been told that if they are unable to keep certain goods in stock then measures will have to be taken to prevent repetition of these problems. [Text] [Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 28 Aug 84 p 1]

CSO: 3214/57

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA--Venezuela will give all of its support to Costa Rica's development, within its possibilities, said the new Venezuelan Ambassador Francisco Quijada when presenting his credentials to President Luis Alberto Monge. Francisco Quijada Gonzalez replaces Aquiles Certad. He said: We are tied to Costa Rica through a great friendship. In addition, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge thanked the Venezuelan diplomat for his offer and praised the spirit of fraternity which prevails among the two peoples. [Text] [PA100232 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Aug 84]

AMBASSADOR TO GREECE--Jose Ramon Medina has been appointed Venezuelan Ambassador to Greece. [Summary] [PA251234 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 16 Aug 84 p 1-14]

AMBASSADORS SWORN IN--Today Foreign Minister Iddro Morales Paul will swear in the new Venezuelan ambassadors to Haiti, Retired Brigadier General Jose Gregoria Gonzalez; to Bulgaria, Antonio Avelado Leal; and to the Latin American Integration Association, Jesus Alberto Fernandez. [Summary] [PA261506 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 21 Aug 84 p 1-13]

NEW AMBASSADORS--Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi yesterday received the credentials of the new ambassadors of Suriname, Nicaragua, Indonesia, and Panama. They are, respectively, Arnold Theodoor Halfhide, Aldo Diaz Lacayo, Hidayat Kusumanegara, and Everardo Bosquez de Leon. [Summary] [PA302234 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 24 Aug 84 p 2-1]

ARTURO CRUZ MEETS CONGRESSIONAL LEADER--Arturo Cruz, presidential candidate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN], has met with Leonardo Ferrer. The Nicaraguan candidate asked the president of the Chamber of Deputies for support for the electoral process in Nicaragua. He also briefed Ferrer on preparations for the elections to be held in November. Cruz was accompanied by other CDN members including Adan Fletes, Azucena Ferrey, and Luis Rivas. They will leave for Bogota, Colombia, where they will meet with President Belisario Bentancur and other political leaders. [Text] [PA010353 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 31 Aug 84]

DEFENSE MINISTRY INFORMATION DIRECTOR--Colonel Eduardo Cesar Castro Perez has assumed office as information and public relations director of the Venezuelan Defense Ministry. He replaces Colonel Serafin Marquez Roa, who has been assigned to another position. [Summary] [PA290204 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 23 Aug 84 p 2-8]

IAEDEN DEPUTY DIRECTOR--Brigadier Teodoro Tomas Diaz Zavala was sworn in yesterday as the new deputy director of the Institute of Higher Studies for National Defense, IAEDEN. Diaz Zavala replaces Rear Admiral Mario Chacon Arellano. [Summary] [PA290204 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 23 Aug 84 p 1-25]

SALVADORAN PRESIDENT EXPECTED 17 SEPTEMBER--Dr (Ernesto Olwouk), deputy planning minister of El Salvador, has arrived in the country to prepare the agenda for Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte's visit to Venezuela, possibly next 17 September. Dr (Olwouk) made the following statements to Radio Rumbos: [Begin recording] [Olwouk] This was the main reason for my visit. In addition, I have to coordinate whatever meetings the president may have during his upcoming visit. We have tentatively scheduled the visit for 17 September. In fact, I just went to the protocol directorate, to arrange the final details about his interviews and meetings. [Vega] How many days will President Jose Napoleon Duarte stay? [Olwouk] He will stay 3 days; this includes the day he arrives, 1 day of work, and the day he leaves. [End recording] [Report by Ernesto Vega] [Excerpt] [PA250223 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 24 Aug 84]

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